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## TALLADEGA COLLEGE

By ARCHIBALD H. GRIMKE

(Written for Alexander's Magazine.)

Last year there graduated from Yale two young Colored men, one from the Academic department, the other from the Law School. They both distinguished themselves, and proved themselves exceptional students. The collegian won the Junior Ten Eyck prize of over \$100 in English composition, and later admission to the Phi Beta Kappa society as one of the first scholars of his class. The law student took prizes in debate each year of his course, and closed this brilliant record by winning at graduation the Townsend prize of \$100 in competition with his entire class.

The records of these two Colored students were reported by the Associated Press and so they were read about and commented on all over the country at the time of their occurrence. Who were the two men? Where did they come from? Where were they prepared for admission to Yale? These were some of the questions people began to ask. Gradually the facts in answer to these questions came to many. It was learned that one of these men had no blood in him

that was not Negro, and that the other had more of the blood of the white race in his veins than that of the black race. Both hailed from Alabama, and from the same institution in that state for the education of the Colored race. That institution is Talladega College, Talladega, Ala.

"By their fruits ye shall know them" is a test as applicable to an institution of learning as to a tree. The fruits of such an institution are the men, the women whom it turns out year after year. When they are ripe and fall off the parent branches and are gathered into people's storehouses, are they good to eat, are they good to feed the hungry minds which are starving for the bread of life, of light, of learning which they ought to have to offer? If they have this bread and are both willing and able to dispense it to the poor, the ignorant, the needy about them well—well, for themselves, their alma mater and for the famished multitudes. Otherwise it is not well for them, but woe rather, and yet again woe.

That Talladega College makes men and women to do men and women's work in the south there is no doubt. One of the best evidences of this is the disposition of the alumni to help their alma mater in times of need. They are not only willing to do so in words, which are well enough in their way, but they do more—they have just backed up their words to the tune of \$5500. With \$3500 of this sum they purchased a pipe organ for the new chapel, and the remaining \$2000 they

quainted with the management of the college and the classwork done, and I have no hesitancy in saying that it has had my approval and co-operation. Its students are polite, genial and stand well among the best people. Talladega College deserves the support of the Colored people, and the encouragement and sympathy of all. It is splendidly conducted, accomplishing a great work, fulfilling its mission along lines promotive of the highest harmony between the races,



PRESIDENT'S HOUSE, TALLADEGA COLLEGE.

raised toward the erection of a \$25,000 Theological building to be named in honor of the veteran, Prof. Andrews. President Nyce says, "No institution has a finer, more loyal, more generous alumni than Talladega." This proud boast of the new president is a deserved tribute, not only to the alumni but to the institution which turns out such fine, loyal and generous men and women likewise.

The editor of the Mountain Home bears this testimony to the value of Talladega College: "Talladega College is doing a great work for the moral, religious and substantial up-building of the Colored people. For the past fifteen years I have been ac-

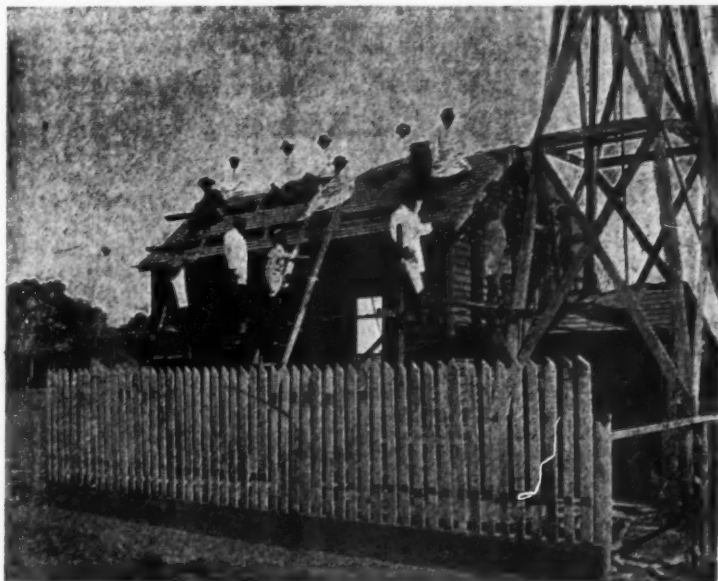
and best calculated for the good of the Negro."

As the proof of the pudding is in the taste, I can offer no better proof of the far-reaching influence for good, for peace of Talladega College in Talladega and adjoining counties than the story told by Prof. Andrews, and here it is: "Two professional men of this city, father and son, were recently in conversation about the race troubles. The son said, 'Father, have you noticed how little there is of it in this and adjoining counties?' 'Yes,' was the prompt reply. 'Well, what do you suppose can be the reason?' The father thought a moment, and, as if a new idea had entered his mind, said,

'I declare, I believe it is the influence of that old college yonder on the hill.' Thus, almost unconsciously, did the native southerner bear his testimony." This is surely the best sort of testimony to the immense value of Talladega College as a harmonizer of race differences on the enduring basis of justice and good-will between them.

Talladega College turns out men who are able to hold their own intellectually, in point of scholarship, with the brightest men of the white

fluence does not reach. Talladega College is, therefore, in its quiet and persistent way, attacking successfully the race problem in the south. Its influence in this respect is the influence of the sun, rather than that of the wind. Silently from its hill it is shedding upon southern prejudice and Negro ignorance the magical rays of a new and better life. Under its benign heat the south is ridding itself in that county, at least, of some of its cruel race prejudices, and the



A CARPENTER CLASS AT WORK, TALLADEGA COLLEGE.

race in one of the leading universities in the land. It does more than this; it turns out men and women who do with their might the great work of lifting and enlightening and saving the Negro in the black belt of the south. Men and women who not only give themselves to their people, but their money in generous sums to their alma mater, also. And then in addition to all this, this college on a hill mediates in innumerable ways between the whites and the blacks, making both races more considerate, more patient of one another than in other counties where its in-

Negro is casting aside, year after year, the dark folds of his ignorance.

Talladega College is beautifully located in the town of Talladega, among the foothills of the Blue Ridge in the upper part of the state of Alabama. It was founded about thirty-eight years ago, just two years after the close of the war which freed the slaves. It was founded by the American Missionary Association, when it purchased in 1867 the large brick building which was erected before the war as a High school for white boys. This rather imposing building, together with about twenty acres of

land, constituted the beginnings of Talladega. There were one hundred and forty pupils, almost every one of whom was illiterate, and last, though not least, the little group of consecrated white teachers from the north whom the association had placed in charge of this work.

Great has been the growth of Talladega College since its days of small things in 1867. Instead of one building on the hill, it has today twenty buildings erected about the original

ing tools and stock, Talladega is the proud possessor today of a magnificent farm of 800 acres, together with the farming utensils and stock to match those broad acres.

Now, great as has been this growth of Talladega, it has been perfectly natural, along natural lines. The institution has expanded in directions where its help is most needed today. The great need of the blacks right after the war, as it is today, was competent teachers, educated



MODEL BARN, TALLADEGA COLLEGE.

campus. Instead of the small number of its teachers in 1867, it has today thirty professors and instructors. Instead of one hundred and forty pupils it has today an annual average attendance of at least six hundred in its several departments. Instead of its one department, the primary, of 1867, it has today five departments, viz.: Grammar school grades, preparatory, normal, collegiate, theological, with its four additional departments in wood-working, in iron, in printing, and in agriculture. And, lastly, instead of its original twenty acres and poverty in machinery, farm-

preachers, men and women who possessed not only the requisite knowledge and training to preach and teach, but men and women with sound morals, whose moral conduct squared itself with their instruction, whether given from pulpit or desk. And so this great need was among the first that Talladega sought to meet by normal and theological instruction.

It saw, besides, that the race needed its own leaders, and it saw clearly that these leaders ought to be men who had received the higher education, and so it instituted its preparatory and academic departments which



are among the best of their kind in the south. And then for the masses of the people who had to engage in some form of manual labor all their lives, it added its industrial and agricultural departments. So completely has the institution sought to provide for the education of the Colored youth to whom it ministers in an educational way, that it might almost be said that in Talladega the Colored people of Talladega and adjoining counties in Alabama can now find instruction in

these men have accomplished in a generation it is not for me to measure. But I cannot do better than to close this short and very imperfect sketch of Talladega College with the testimony of one of these ministers, written by him in 1892, during his senior year in college, and here it is: "I love to contrast my present condition with what it was a few years ago, and as I do so I do not forget the American Missionary Association, whose workers found me in the lowest



A CARPET CLASS AT WORK—TALLADEGA COLLEGE.

all subjects of practical use to them at the present stage of their development. Medicine and law are alone waiting to complete the perfect circle of instruction at Talladega. The Colored people must sooner or later have their own lawyers and doctors, especially in the black belt of the south.

The Theological school, since its small beginnings of six young men and one instructor gathered for Biblical study in 1873, has sent out more than one hundred and seventy ministers to labor in this southern vineyard of the Master. The good which

depths of ignorance and helped me up. When liberated soon after the surrender, I could not read a word and did not know a letter. I do not remember that I had ever seen inside of a book of any kind. It was in 1867 that I learned the alphabet upon the plantation by the light of pine knots. During the years of 1868 and 1869 I was a rag-picker in the streets of Mobile. God has led me on, and now I am a student in Talladega College, and expect soon to have finished a course of study which will enable me to go forth to lead men to Christ,

and to teach them better methods of living. I speak of this contrast not boastfully, but humbly and with deep gratitude to God, who took me from the woes and degradation of slavery and has given me a double freedom. I am so glad for the schools the American Missionary Association has in the south. I am so glad for what they have done for me. Through one of these schools I was led to Christ. Soon after that I felt called to the ministry, and in Talladega College I am permitted to finish a course of study and to some degree equip myself for the work of life. All praise to an organization that seeks for poor, ignorant, sinful men, leads them to Christ, instructs them and then sends them out to bless the world."

ARCHIBALD H. GRIMKE.

#### ALL ABOUT THE STAGE.

(By Sylvester Russell.)

Williams and Walker will open their regular New York season at the New York theatre early in October in a new musical comedy entitled "Abyssinia." Book by Jesse A. Shipp, lyrics by Alex Rogers and music by Will Marion Cook. The company will number one hundred people and all the scenery and costumes will be new. This company has retired from the management of Hurtig and Seamon after a law suit resulting in a decision handed down in favor of Williams and Walker. Ernest Hogan goes on tour with his "Funny Folk" minstrels, late in September, J. Ed Green, Sam Lucas and others will be in the cast. Mme. Marion Adams Harris, who will probably change her name, is the prima donna. The Smart Set company will take the road as usual with Miss Marion Smart as the special female attraction.

John Larkins in "A Royal Coon" under the management of F. A. Barnes and Williams and Stevens in "The Richest Coon in Georgia" will be potent western attractions.

Three big minstrel companies will also invade the west. Billy Kersands, the original Georgia's headed by Clarence Powell and Mahara's headed by Skinner Harris. Cole and

Johnson, Mattie Wilkes, Irving Jones, Cooper and Robinson, Cordelia McClain, Avery and Hart and the Meredith sisters have all scored in Europe during the present season. Henry Troy, tenor singer, has returned to join Hogan's minstrels. Belle Davis, Rachel Walker and "one" Billy Far-



MR. GEORGE W. WALKER.

rell are now established favorites in Europe, and Tom Brown and wife, Miss Nevarro are playing return dates. Black Patti Troubadors is already on the road. Hattie Hopkins and Lawrence Chenault will be seen with Williams and Walker's company. The Memphis Students have concluded their engagement on Hammerstein's New York Victoria theatre roof garden. Ernest Hogan, the star, was supported by Miss Abbie Mitchell, Miss Anna Cook, Ida Forcen and Will H. Dixon. The students will go in vaudeville under Mr. Hogan's manage-

ment. There is a movement on foot to establish a Colored Actors' Beneficial association. Among prominent actors mentioned are James W. Johnson, Bob Cole, Bert A. Williams, Ernest Hogan, George W. Walker, Jesse A. Shipp, Alex Rogers, J. Lubrie Hill, C. Henri Tapley, Will Dixon, William

by Cole and Johnson were features. G. W. Walker sat on the platform. Ada Overton Walker, his wife, was the best dressed lady at the banquet on the closing evening. She wore a dark green spangle with heavy green lace train and green ruffled lace sleeves.



MR. EARNEST HOGAN.

C. Elkins, Will Marion Cook, R. C. McPherson, J. Ed. Green, Al Johns, Lloyd Gibbs, Chas. L. Moore, Al Watts, Joseph Hodges, Tom Brown, Billy Kersands, John Rucker, Dan Avery and Charles Hart. Prominent actors took the Business Men's league by storm in New York City Aug. 16, 17, 18. Ernest Hogan and his Memphis students, the Williams and Walker Glee club and a "Negro Anthum"

Dr. Duke, the leading English brain specialist, says the trouble with most brains is that they are not kept busy enough. The brain ought never to rest except during sleep, and most persons take too much of that.

In praising or loving a child we love and praise not that which is, but that which we hope for.—Goethe.

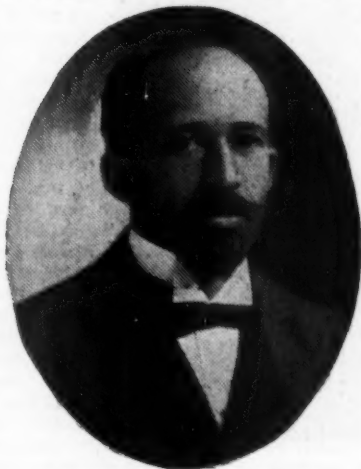
## BOOK NOTES AND COMMENTS.

BY JOHN DANIELS, SOUTH END  
HOUSE, BOSTON, MASS.

### THE SOULS OF BLACK FOLK, ES- SAYS AND SKETCHES.

(By W. E. Burghardt Du Bois. Fourth  
Edition. A. C. McClurg & Co., Chi-  
cago.)

After a reading of Prof. Du Bois' book, "The Souls of Black Folk," one has many thoughts, many impressions. One feels the mystery and the awe of



PROF. W. E. B. DU BOIS.

what people call "the Negro Problem." One is filled with sympathy for the Negro, and a sense of the brotherhood of man. One sees vividly the despair, the bitter misery of the Negro in his social degradation. One is exalted by the dominating spirituality of the book. And withal, one feels all the time the fine, sensitive embittered nature of the author.

This is no mere descriptive, analytic or argumentative treatment of the race question, but something which is much deeper and broader, and more ultimate; it is a poem. In motive, method, substance and effect it is a poem. Even the treatment of bare facts is refined, poetical. And since the book is a poem the sympathetic reader reads it as a poem, must so read it. He finds himself in the author's place, seeing with his eyes, feeling with his nature, influenced by his environment, his traditions. The reader does not desire to question this or that inference, to oppose this argument, or pick flaws in that course of reasoning. He does not feel inclined to take the coolly critical, argumentative attitude, for such an attitude seems petty and unworthy of the book.

If criticism may be legitimately undertaken it should concern itself with the sum total effect made upon the reader. For poems should be judged by their effect; study of metre, diction, style, ideas, is merely a study of the means of gaining the effect. Now the effect which this book makes upon the reader is that of bringing him to feel the cruelty, the hardness, the despair, the bitterness of the Negro's present plight. The tone of the book is not hopelessness; far from it; it is full of prophecy of ultimate victory. It is not pessimistic in its ultimate views. Nor ultimately cynical, though it is full of passing bitterness and cynicism. It is not unrelenting and vengeful. It is simply and finally a voicing of the bitterness in the Negro's soul, the sorrow that things are as they are, which is not inconsistent with the hope of better things.

Now, the reader could wish that the motif of bitterness and complaint were subordinated to an emergent triumphal motif of overcoming, of victory. One could wish the meanness of the present irradiated by the glory of the future. The author believes in the ultimate victory; then why does he not sing a song of triumph? But, no—what are we saying? Why did Swift not write panegyrics instead of satires. Why not Burns philosophy instead of heart music, why not Kip-

ling Sunday school songs instead of voicings of human fellowship? They did as they did; and as authors, should be judged by what they wrote. So the sympathetic reader feels toward Du Bois. Take his sadness and bitterness for granted, then feel it with him, its power, its justice. Judge his book not as an argument, as an anti-Washingtonian protest, but as a poem, a spiritual, not intellectual offering, an appeal not to the head but to the heart. Give the book its highest place; not that of a polemic, a transient thing, but that of a poem, a thing permanent.

#### DREAMS OF LIFE—MISCELLANEOUS POEMS.

(By Timothy Thomas Fortune. Published by Fortune & Peterson, New York.)

A book of verse from the pen of the leader of Negro journalists, T. Thomas Fortune, has just been published by the author's own publishing house.

The function of literary criticism is hard to define. It is not the critic's work simply to find fault, nor, on the other hand, wholly to praise. The critic is not either a judge of men, but only of their writing. Nor in judging writing is the critic a moral censor, tasked to commend the good and condemn that which is not as white as snow. It is the critic's function, broadly speaking, to discover the merits and demerits of writing as literature, simply as the art of expressing thoughts in words.

So conceiving his duty, the critic would not say much in praise of Mr. Fortune's offering, viewed as poetry. Though poetry is admittedly incapable of at all satisfactory definition, yet it is recognizable, perceptible, felt—it may be known by its effect. On the writer of this humble comment at least. Mr. Fortune's lines do not have the effect of poetry. The thought in them is strong, wholesome, manly, good, but that is not enough to make poetry—many men express such thoughts even on paper. From the viewpoint of thought alone there is a little evidently original, exalted,

subtle or exquisitely sweet and tender in Mr. Fortune's verses. But yet it is not fair to say that, for thought is approved to others only through its expression, through its language-clothing. So it is fairer to say that as expressed in words, in metre and rhythm, there is little that is original, exalted, subtle or exquisitely tender in Mr. Fortune's thought, though the thought in his mind, unfettered



HON. T. THOMAS FORTUNE,

Editor of the New York Age, Whose Participation in the Arrangements for the Entertainment of the National Negro Business League in New York Was Largely Responsible for the Success of the Convention.

by words, may have had all these excellences. So directing our judgment to Mr. Fortune's style we fail to find there much fineness and discrimination of diction, and much taste and variety of metre. The language is as a rule commonplace, and particularly, many of the adjectives are colorless, pictureless, vague, lacking in the concreteness suited to poetry—adjectives such as these, selected at random—"plain," as describing a pathway; "sloping," as applied to a

mountain's sides; "high," as qualifying a habitation, also "elevated" in the same use, and so on—words of no picture. Then the metrical form is prevaillingly rude, such as schoolboys achieve, and lacks variety. A sweet, lingering vague thought cannot be expressed at a rollicking ballad gait.

To the present writer these lines of Mr. Fortune's appear to be ballads, good, honest, plain, unpretentious ballads, offering themselves as such, asking for no greater esteem, they are very acceptable. They are wholesome and steady in tone. To be read as light stimulants of the sense of rhythm within us, and as expressions of sturdy good feeling, everyday joy of living they serve a worthy purpose.

Yet a number of what are more truly poems stand out from the rest. The distinguished features of these seem to be greater spontaneity, diction, more choice, and a finer manipulation of metre. There is charm in the following ten lines, for instance, dedicated to "Edgar Allan Poe."

"I know not why, but it is true—it may,  
In some way, be because he was a child  
Of the fierce sun where I first wept  
and smiled—  
I love the dark-browed Poe. His feverish day  
Was spent in dreams inspired, that him beguiled,  
When not along his path shone forth one ray  
Of light, of hope, to guide him on the way,  
That to earth's cares he might be reconciled.  
Not one of all Columbia's tuneful choir  
Has pitched his notes to such a matchless key  
As Poe—the wizard of the Orphic lyre!  
Who, like an echo came, an echo went,  
Singing, back to his mother element."

Perhaps the excellence of these lines lies in their simplicity and their truth of appreciation of Poe's nature, and in the happily made closing couplet. In the lines below, the charm

seems to arise more from the spontaneity, the lyrical quality.

"There was love, and there was beauty,

In the face upturned to me;  
And her hair was long and golden,  
Soft to touch and good to see;  
Her blue eyes were full of laughter,  
As they burned into my own,  
Glowing like a priceless diamond,  
Fascinating as that stone.

What is life but love, devotion!

What is woman but a song—

But a lyric caught from nature—

But an echo sounding long,

Filling all the earth with gladness,

Filling all the earth with madness,

What is woman but a song."

There is sweetness here, and delicate thought. But the final two lines of the first stanza mar the poem; they introduce the commonplace and meaningless into an otherwise fine lyric.

And is not the following somewhat of a gem?

"High above the wrecks of ages,  
Brightening all of hist'ry's pages,

Love has shone,

Planet like, in life's dark heaven,  
'Sweetest boon to mortals given,'

Sweet alone!

"Life is brief, but Love's eternal,  
Always young, as Spring is vernal,  
Always strong.

Give me love in largest measure,  
From your heart's abundant treasure,  
Is my song."

There are a few others of like quality. But the ballad effect predominates.

#### THE AFTERMATH OF SLAVERY.

(By William A. Sinclair Small, Maynard & Co., Cambridge, Mass.)

The Colored people of the United States are to be congratulated that there has at last been published a book dealing with that most vital matter, their American citizenship. And this book was not written by a northern man who looks upon life in the south from his distant home; nor was it written by the southern white man who feels bound to use every



means at his command to prevent the acquirement of full citizenship by the man of color. It was written by a Colored man; a man who, born in slavery, was fired by an ambition to acquire the best education that this country could furnish him; who has accomplished his object, and who after devoting sixteen years to the work of arousing interest—that most difficult interest to arouse, financial interest in the education of the Color-

themselves; white authors have written books telling of these conditions as they see them, but Dr. Sinclair has written of that broader question, the citizenship of the Negro, not only as he sees it and feels it, but as it appears from the point of view of history.

This new book presents to both the Colored people and to the white people for the first time a complete, logical and forcibly expressed account of



DR. WILLIAM A. SINCLAIR.

ed race, now presents to both the white people and Colored people of our land the results of his careful and prolonged and thorough study of the condition of the Negro as an American citizen.

Other men of color have presented the social and educational conditions of the Colored race as they feel it

what the Colored race has passed through since it was implanted upon American soil, and it shows the different stages in which it has been found in the progress from slavery to liberty.

Dr. Sinclair's book first tells about slavery as it existed in this country for two hundred and fifty years, and

how it was abolished. It shows that the Colored people have been in this country just about as long as the white men have lived here. The book shows how the Colored people have worked faithfully in time of peace and fought nobly in every war that this country has ever been engaged in. Then the book shows what the Colored man has accomplished in his own uplifting since the war, and that the American people as a whole are supporting him in his endeavors.

Dr. Sinclair was financial secretary of Howard university for sixteen years and he has repeatedly traveled the length and breadth of our land in the interest of that institution, and he spent a year and a half in Europe on a similar mission. In thus presenting the cause of the Colored people Dr. Sinclair was obliged to find out the exact facts in regard to the Colored race in order to tell of its needs.

This is the first history that has been written of the Colored people as American citizens. It is the first book that shows the Colored people where they stand as American citizens and on this account it should be in the hands of every Colored man who can read; and those who cannot read should have the book read to them. This book—*The Aftermath of Slavery*—should be found right next to the Bible on the table or on the bookshelf, in every home of Colored people throughout the land. Every Colored minister should have this book to help him in preparing his sermons; and if every minister would read sections of this book at the religious meetings of his church, he would be doing a service to his race. This book should be in every schoolhouse where Colored children are taught. Every Colored school teacher should read portions of the book to his pupils as a history of their race. In fact, it is a book to be studied by all the older pupils.

Nearly all the great newspapers of the country have printed opinions declaring the great value of the *"Aftermath of Slavery."* The Boston Transcript devoted two columns to a glowing review of the book. Mr. Edward Atkinson, the famous Boston phil-

osopher and economist, says in the North American Review that it is "the most remarkable book ever written by a Colored man, unless we except the novels of Dumas."

#### THE AFRO-AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINNEAPOLIS.

(By Laura Hickman.)

The day dawned auspiciously. The birds sang their sweetest lays. The hearts of hundreds of Afro-American women were attuned in harmony with nature's own. Minneapolis, Minnesota, seemed never more cosmopolitan. Bethesda church was never so enchanting in its quaint loveliness than when on Wednesday, July 26, the first convention of Minnesota's federated clubs of Afro-American women was called to order by its president, Mrs. Ione E. Gibbs. Bright intelligent faces, from youth to old age, with countenances all aglow with expectancy were everywhere apparent.

If cordial welcome voice the thought and feelings of the various interests in any community, then state and city, church and home, society and citizens joined hands to wish the federation "bon voyage." If distinguished persons give prestige to a movement, then we say, a letter of commendation and felicitous concern in the advancement of the organization was read from the Hon. John A. Johnson, governor of Minnesota. The Hon. mayor of Minneapolis, D. C. Jones, in person welcomed our women to the freedom of the city and expressed his personal feeling of esteem for the broader view of life which is coming to women through club organization. The influence of church and home was brought to bear in favor of the highest ideals of club effort through Rev. R. E. Wilson and Attorney W. R. Morris. Mrs. C. A. Hoyt, president, and Mrs. Julia E. F. Lobdell, past president of the ladies of the G. A. R. department, of Minnesota, bespoke the fraternal greetings of that splendid order. So, amid the plaudits, praise and good wishes of friends the good ship left port with some three hundred aboard to battle with the perils of the high

seas; to ride the waves of criticism; to weather the storms of opposition; and despite the rocks and reefs, the shoals and sands, to make safe anchorage in the harbor of success.

told to me by an old friend of my father who bears the historic name of Robert Bruce. He it was who rehearsed the calling of the first convention in Minnesota of Afro-Amer-



MRS. LAURA DURANT HICKMAN,  
Organizer, Minnesota Federation; President Monday Art, and Twin City,  
Maids and Matrons' Clubs.

As I mused at night upon the pleasant scenes of the morning, I thought of the successful launching of the Minnesota federation nearly six months previous. These reminiscences were

ican citizens, January 1st and 2d, 1868, in the city of St. Paul; called in order to endorse the action of congress in the passage of the thirteenth and fourteenth amendments to the Con-

stitution. How two hundred persons representing cities throughout the state on a winter's day, with music and merriment, with speech-making and resolutions held a two days' convention, when the war governor of the state, Hon. Alexander Ramsey, attended the meeting giving sanction



MRS. LUCY THURMAN,  
President Michigan Federation, Guest  
of Honor at the Minnesota Federation  
of Afro-American Women's  
Clubs.

and moral support. Ralph T. Grey, Blakely Durant, James K. Hilyard, Otway Bowles and Robert Hickman, at present all deceased, were persons intimately associated with this ratification meeting. Nearly forty years later another winter's meet presents itself to my mind. Not two hundred Afro-American men, but two hundred Afro-American women; not to endorse an action inaugurated, but to inaugurate an action worthy of endorsement; once more a governor of the state welcomes an Afro-American convention in the old State house, with other persons, 'tis true, associated with its deliberations; not a few of whom were but entering into the labors of their fathers. These thoughts still lingered with me when on the

following day, Dr. Martha Ripley introduced to the convention Mr. John Blackwell, husband to Lucy Stone. As this patriarch, with snowy locks of many winters, but with a heart still young, spoke of his experience in ante-bellum days for the cause of humanity, we listened as in a dream of the past. But thinking of the past inspires to achievements of the ever present now.

The departments of literature, arts and crafts, mothers, philanthropy and legal and statistical were emphasized in a manner demonstrating their utility and value. Especially to be noted was the graceful language and elevated thought of Mrs. Anna Morris on the subject of "Mother's Influence." Mrs. Ella B. Porter's well constructed



MRS. IONE J. GIBBS,  
President Minnesota Federation of  
Afro-American Women's Clubs.

paper with interesting data on the legal and statistical status of Afro-Americans from two view points, progress and hindrances to progress, received merited praise. Other subjects presented were: "Opportunities and Responsibilities of Afro-American Women," by Mrs. Mattie Wade; "Local Influence of Clubs," by Mrs. Jen-



MRS. KETTIE TERRILL,  
Vice-President, Minnesota Federation.



MRS. MARY L. JOYCE,  
Recording Secretary, Minnesota Fed-  
eration.



MRS. MAMIE DURANT,  
Treasurer, Minnesota Federation.



MRS. EMMA JEFFREY,  
Chaplain, Minnesota Federation.

nie E. Watson; "How to Reach the Young People," by Mrs. Sarah Kirtley, and "Club Co-operation," by Mrs. Taylor; "A Visit to Tuskegee Institute" and "A Recent Journey to the Holy Land," by Mrs. A. Russell.

The president's address was scholarly and thoughtful. Officers and club reports revealed fifteen thoroughly organized, well regulated clubs whose

eration will labor is a home for the aged with a woman's exchange established in each of the tri-cities of St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth, to furnish a means of revenue for its maintenance. Each city federation will institute a circulating library and social studio for the youth of the race in the three largest cities of the state. A question that ought to receive definite consideration from all our national and state organizations, from our writers and speakers, that of a specific race name, was, for weight of reasons as opposed to Negro, or Colored, unanimously decided by the federation, in favor of Afro-American.

Minnesota has gifted sons and



MRS. MATTIE WADE,  
Associate Editor of the Minnesota  
Federation.

members are variously interested in literature, music, the drama, arts and crafts, library extension, education, civic improvement, economics, patriotism, missions and one club, the Twin City Maids, and Matrons meet for parliamentary practice. Philanthropy is a special feature with most of the clubs. The city of Duluth by the unsalted seas boasts a city federation, while St. Paul has the largest club, the Monday Art, with seventy-five members. Through the efforts of this club two race magazines, the Voice of the Negro, and the Colored American, have been placed in the public library of the city. This club took the initiative in the organization of the state, and numbered among its one hundred guests of the past year, Prof. W. E. B. DuBois of Atlanta university and Prof. R. S. Lovingood of Samuel Huston college, Austin, Texas.

The object toward which the fed-



MRS. CARRIE M. LINDSAY,  
Superintendent, Junior Exhibit.

daughters who were willing to adorn the occasion with wreaths from their gardens, growing: "The Outlook," an original poem by Miss Alice Ward Smith, of Duluth, was optimistic of the future of the race. The "Federation-March" composed by Mr. Lafayette Mason, was received with much appreciation. Throughout all the sessions good music and sweet singing



contributed to the enjoyment of the large number present.

The arts and crafts exhibit under the supervision of Mrs. Emma Helm, displayed beautiful hand-sewing, dainty laces, various kinds of embroideries, drawn work, burnt wood, pen and ink sketches, water colors, and china painting from salad and ice cream sets to salts and peppers. To quote



MRS. HARRIET SHERWOOD,  
Associate Editor, Minnesota Federation.

our national guests: "The national association has never had an exhibit that could compare with this of Minnesota." Mesdames Hardin and Neal successfully directed the social features of the meetings. The luncheon and dinner hour with more than an hundred at table made opportunity for all to renew old acquaintances and to form new and lasting friendships. The decoration of the auditorium of the church with palms and American flags, with the framed roster of each club, hanging upon the walls, and with display of club colors, was most effective.

Thus characterized by "unity in diversity," through perfect harmony of action, with discussions and decisions,

by conferences and resolutions, accompanied by song and story, the days were brought to a fitting climax of time well spent to the crowning glory of the last evening of the convention when the special guests of honor in the persons of Mrs. Lucy Thurman of Jackman, Michigan, president of the Michigan federation, and Mrs. Carrie W. Clifford of Cleveland, Ohio, honorary president of the Ohio federation, were the chief participants on the program. Mrs. Thurman from the opening to the close of a most splendid address of an hour's duration, held the large audience spellbound, as the work of the national association, the necessity of kindergartens and the paramount importance of right home influences was



MRS. NELLIE TAYLOR,  
Corresponding Secretary, Minnesota Federation.

vividly portrayed by this eloquent national lecturer of the W. C. T. U. Miss Ada Van Spence sang delightfully and responded to all encores.

Mrs. Clifford followed on the program and spoke from the subject, "The Rights of Humanity are Worth Fighting for." Mrs. Clifford was mistress of her subject and with great

skill impressed her audience with her deep earnestness and logic. The dramatic deliverance of the closing admonition was sufficient to reveal a



MRS. DELLA PETTIS,  
President Social Improvement Club.

reserve power in dramatic recital and this lady cheerfully responded to a recall.

The four daily newspapers of the city faithfully reported the meetings and the complimentary editorials proved of more than passing interest. So when a few days later our guests were escorted to the depots they left behind a host of friends in the North Star state.

LAURA DURANT HICKMAN.

#### THE NORTHEASTERN FEDERATION.

(By Walter F. Walker.)

Boston is the most enchanting American city from the standpoint of architectural beauty, both in its public and business structures as well as in its private dwellings; and as for its park system, there is nothing in the world to surpass it in picturesqueness. The hundreds of ladies who attended the ninth annual session of the North-

eastern Federation of Women's Clubs, August 9, 10 and 11, were simply charmed with the city and the hospitality received at the hands of its citizens.

Miss R. J. Dunbar, of Providence, one of the best informed young women in New England, who presided at all the sessions of the federation, was delighted with the reception accorded



MRS. ALICE K. WILEY.

her on every hand. While in the city, she was the guest of Mrs. J. O. Henson of 50 Erie street, Dorchester. The convention was held in Potter

hall, Huntington avenue, and was largely attended. Sixty-three clubs were represented by able delegates and over 200 women were present. They came from Mass., Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey. Much of the success of the convention was due to the untiring efforts of Mrs. Julia O. Henson, president of the Harriet Tubman W. C. T. U., through whose invitation, a year ago at Worcester, the convention was brought to Boston.

The executive board met on Wednesday at 2 o'clock, but the work of the convention proper was really started Thursday morning at 9.30, when Miss Dunbar called the one hundred or

matters of practical value—such as simple dressing, the care of the home and the proper preparation of foods.

Mrs. J. H. Jeter of Newport, president of the Josephine Yates Mothers' club, emphasized the idea that black men and women must stand for their race and stand as one. At the juvenile conference, conducted by Mrs. E. L. Faulcon, of Brooklyn, the question of the increase of drunkenness and the need of care regarding girls' associates were discussed. In her annual address during the evening session, the president, Miss Dunbar, reported visiting 26 of the 63 clubs in the federation. Miss J. E. Rovelto conducted an arts and crafts confer-



MISS ELIZABETH C. CARTER.

more delegates to order. The address of welcome was delivered by Mrs. Henson and Mrs. Corbin Smith of Portland, Me., responded. Then came the various reports. In the afternoon, Mrs. Booker T. Washington came from her summer home in South Weymouth to address the convention. From her wide experience of what is best for the women of her race, she spoke on the value of mothers' meetings, and described how the mothers in the neighborhood of Tuskegee are reached and interested in

ence; Mrs. Byron F. Gunner read a paper on "Social Purity," and Mrs. Alice W. Wiley on "The Open Door."

The work of the second day was very engrossing. Miss Elizabeth C. Carter, of New Bedford, Mass., reported on the proposed federation home on the Dwight L. Moody estate at Northfield and stated that \$453.54 had been subscribed for that purpose. Miss Elizabeth C. Carter, the chairman of the Northfield fund committee and Mrs. Mary H. Dickerson, treasurer, are entertaining high hopes of



MISS S. E. WILSON.

MISS SARAH V. CUFF,  
New Bedford.

MRS. OLIVIA WARD BUSH.

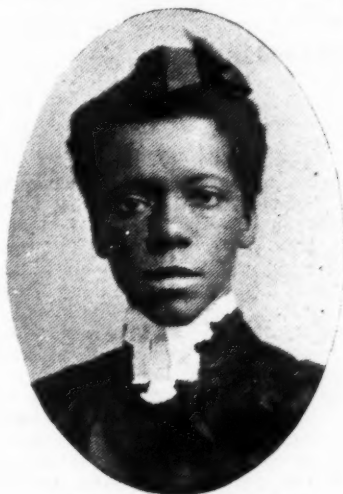


MRS. W. H. COSHBURN.

securing at an early date, the amount necessary to erect the cottage. The election of officers occupied considerable time with the following result: President, Mrs. Alice W. Willey, Brooklyn, N. Y.; vice-presidents, Mrs. Lottie France, Dorchester, Mass.; Mrs. H. M. Jeter, Newport, R. I.; Miss Etta King of Norwich; Mrs. S. E. Frazer, of New York City; Mrs. E. S. Green of Portland, Me.; Mrs. R. Jack-

was read by Mrs. R. C. Ransom of this city. Miss S. E. Wilson of Worcester, editor of the *Northeastern*, the official organ of the federation, made her annual report, which showed clearly that Miss Wilson had conducted the affairs of the journal in every way satisfactory to the organization and Miss Stewart of this city gave a reading. During the evening the long-promised electrical parade passed Potter hall and the president found it necessary to suspend business in order to give the ladies a chance to witness the magnificent spectacle. The conduct and closing of the convention were free from features tending to mar the harmony of the proceedings. The new officers promise to render faithful service.

The election of Mrs. Alice W. Willey to the presidency of the *Northeastern*



MISS ANNA BRODGEN.

son of Jersey City; general secretary, Miss Hattie Cooke, of Norwich; assistant secretary, Mrs. W. Amos, New Haven; general organizer, Miss Reberta J. Dunbar of Providence; chairman of executive board, Mrs. M. Cravatt Simpson of Chelsea. Mrs. W. H. Hickman of New Haven, is superintendent of the mothers' department, and Mrs. Byron Gunner of Newport superintendent of the suppression of lynching department.

The evening session opened with a piano solo by Miss Marjorie Groves, of Boston. Miss E. J. Cooke of Norwich read a paper on village improvement, Mrs. Estella Pinckney-Clough of Worcester sang a solo. The open parliament on the suppression of lynching was conducted by Miss Florence Ray of Woodside, L. I. A paper entitled "The Home-Made Girl,"



MRS. J. B. COLLINS.

Federation of Women's Clubs meets with popular favor among club women throughout the jurisdiction of that organization. By experience and capacity for organization work, Mrs. Willey is eminently fitted for the exalted position to which she has been called, and makes a worthy successor of the talented Miss Reberta J. Dun-

bar. Mrs. Wiley is president of the Dorcas Home Mission society in Brooklyn and an ardent advocate of W. C. T. U. principles.

Miss Christina Goode, the new editor of the Northeastern, a quarterly journal published by the Northeastern

Federation of Women's Clubs, is a graduate of the Brooklyn Girls' High school and a young woman of excellent literary talents. The Northeastern will be published in Brooklyn with editorial rooms at 270 Navy street.

## National Negro Business League

By CHARLES ALEXANDER

(Written for Alexander's Magazine.)

Whatever may be said to the contrary, there are at the present time real "captains of industry" among Negroes in the United States, and to get a glimpse of these captains, you must follow up the meetings of the National Negro Business league. The last convention held in New York City was a grand success. It was the greatest meeting yet held by the league. The city was ready for the convention, the great metropolitan journals of every class had prepared the way for the most cordial welcome of the delegates, and to the credit of the men who attended, be it said, they equipped themselves in a manner becoming loyal citizens of affairs. There were no ragmuffins in the hall at any time. Every man who wore a badge was neatly clad and appeared to be prosperous. The sixth annual session was called to order Wednesday morning, Aug. 16, at 10.30 o'clock at the Palm Garden, 58th street and Lexington avenue, New York City, by President Booker T. Washington.

The following letter from President Roosevelt commending the purposes of the league was received and read at the opening session.

The White House, Washington.  
Oyster Bay, N. Y., Aug. 12, 1905.

My dear Mr. Scott: I wish all success to the National Negro Business league. Your organization is absolutely out of politics, and in stimulating activity among your people and

working to increase their efficiency in the industrial world it is also doing far-reaching work in the way of giving them a realizing sense of their responsibilities as citizens and power to meet these responsibilities. I need hardly say that I put moral betterment above physical betterment. But it is absolutely impossible to do good work in promoting the spiritual improvement of any race unless there is a foundation of material well-being, because this foundation necessarily implies that the race has developed the root qualities of thrift, energy and business sense. It is as true of a race as of an individual that while outsiders can help to a certain degree, yet the real help must come in the shape of self help.

The success of your organization and the development among our Colored fellow citizens of the very qualities for which you will stand will mean more for the solution of the race problem than any philanthropic efforts merely from outside could possibly be.

Wishing you all success, I am,

Sincerely yours,

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Mr. Emmett J. Scott, corresponding secretary, National Negro Business League, New York, N. Y.

From Governor Higgins of New York, the following communication was received:

State of New York, Executive Chamber.



Albany, August 7, 1905.

Mr. Emmett J. Scott, corresponding secretary, National Negro Business league, New York:

My dear sir:—I am duly in receipt of your communication of August 4, together with copy of report of the fifth annual convention of your



Bishop Alexander Walters, of the A. M. E. Zion Church, Who Took a Prominent Part in All the Proceeding of the Convention.

league, for which pray accept my thanks. It will afford me great pleasure to examine the report at the earliest opportunity.

I observe that your organization is to hold its next annual session at New York city on the 16th, 17th and 18th of this month. Will you kindly convey to its officers and members the expression of my best wishes for the success of your meeting, and for the continued success of the league in its chosen field. I am,

Yours very sincerely,

FRANK W. HIGGINS.

The invocation was pronounced by Rev. W. H. Brooks, pastor of St. Mark's M. E. church. A Negro anthem, composed by Mr. J. Rosamond

Johnson, was rendered by the Williams & Walker Glee club. Addresses of welcome were delivered by Hon. Charles V. Fornes, president of the board of aldermen, and on behalf of the local business league and the citizens by Hon. Charles W. Anderson, collector of internal revenue.

Then the following subjects were discussed: "Coal and Wood Business," Mr. R. B. Hudson, Selma, Ala.; "Contracting: Painting," Mr. William Alexander of Little Rock, Ark.; "Contracting Stone, Masonry and Bridge-Building," Mr. James H. Hargo of Greenfield, Ohio; "Contracting: Wood Work Construction," Mr. Robert E.



MR. A. C. HOWARD,

Of Chicago, Ill., Successful Manufacturer and Inventor of Useful Domestic Articles.

Pharrow of Birmingham, Ala.; and "The Hay Business," Mr. Albert Carter of Westfield, Ind.

Mr. Oswald Garrison Villard, editor of the New York Evening Post, read an instructive paper on "The Negro and the Domestic Problem." Justice R. H. Terrell of Washington, D. C., spoke on the same subject.

The following committees were ap-

pointed: Committee on nomination, Philip A. Payton, Jr., of New York;



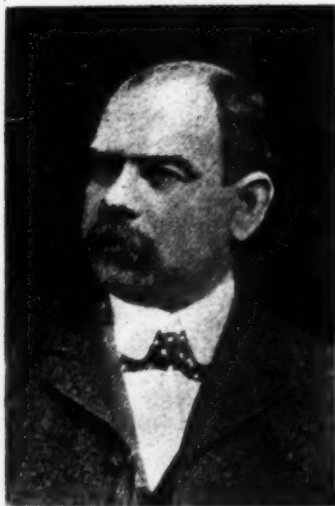
REV. W. L. TAYLOR,  
President Grand United Order of  
True Reformers.



REV. MATTHEW ANDERSON, A. M.,  
Founder and Principal of the Berean  
School, Philadelphia, Pa., Who Took  
an Active Part in the 6th Annual  
Convention of the National Negro  
Business League in New York City—  
In the Affairs of the Berean Manual  
Training and Industrial School, Rev  
Mr. Anderson Has Rendered the  
Race Invaluable Service.

John Rich of Pennsylvania; M. H.

Turner of Indiana; Dr. S. E. Courtney  
of Massachusetts; C. H. Smiley of Illi-  
nois; I. T. Montgomery of Missis-  
sippi; W. I. Johnson of Virginia; R.  
B. Hudson of Alabama; and B. F.  
Wyche of New Jersey. Committee on  
revision of constitution: Booker T.  
Washington of Alabama; T. W. Jones



DR. WILLIAM D. CRUM.

of Illinois; Fred R. Moore of New  
York; Wilford H. Smith of New York  
and T. Thomas Fortune of New Jer-  
sey. Committee on credentials: P. J.  
Smith of Massachusetts; J. D. Patter-  
son of Ohio; G. W. Jackson of Ten-  
nessee; J. C. Duke of Arkansas and  
H. A. Tandy of Kentucky. Commit-  
tee on resolutions, T. Thomas Fortune  
of New Jersey, T. P. Hurst of Missis-  
sippi; Dr. J. R. Francis of the District  
of Columbia; J. W. Mound of Geor-  
gia, Charles Bass of Indiana, C. W.  
Keatts of Arkansas, and Ira Guy of  
Kansas; auditing committee; W. N.  
Vandervall of New Jersey; J. W.  
Strangther of Mississippi, R. L. Smith  
of Texas, J. Douglas Wetmore of Flor-  
ida and Mrs. Fannie Barrier Williams  
of Illinois.

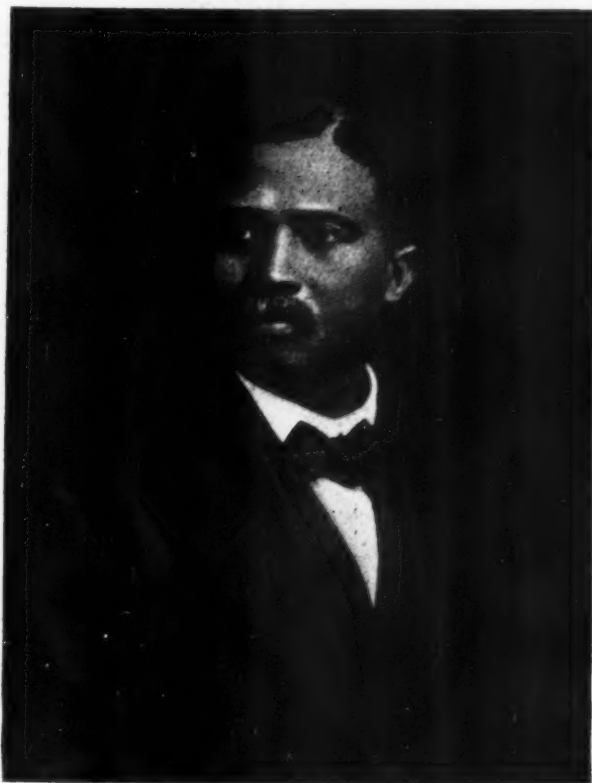
At the evening session President  
Washington delivered his annual ad-

dress which was received with the usual enthusiasm.

During Thursday morning session which was opened at 10 o'clock, a great variety of subjects were treated after the report of the corresponding secretary, the national organizer, the treasurer and compiler. Such topics as the "Negro Publishers," "Manufacturing Razor Stropps," "Man-

all sympathetic rather than critical.

At the evening session Mr. Wilford H. Smith and Mr. J. A. Atkins, both of New York city, spoke upon the question, "The Negro Tenant in the Nation's Metropolis." Dr. J. W. E. Bowen of Atlanta, Ga., delivered an eloquent address upon foundation building and Mr. E. C. Brown of Newport News, Va., and Mr. Charles H. Stew-



HON JOHN C. DANCY.

ufacturing Tool Handles," "Opera Houses Management," "Dressmaking and Millinery," "Barbers," "Loan Associations," "Fraternal and Industrial Insurance," "The Banking Idea," "Business Training and the Negro Interests of Greater New York." All of these papers were well received and the discussions which followed were

art of Indiana, Ind., discussed the realty business. Perhaps one of the most intelligently delivered, vitally interesting of the entire session was that delivered by Mrs. Carrie W. Clifford of Cleveland, Ohio, in which she told the story of "A Colored Woman's 30 Years' Business Experience." "The Place of Failures and Success" by

Prof. H. T. Kealing, editor of the A. M. E. Review of Philadelphia, Pa., was remarkable for its illustrations of how men fail at the beginning of a business career because they attempt to satisfy the artistic instinct rather than supply customers with the articles in which they are supposed to

which he spoke in part as follows:

I want all you people of the Afro-American race to feel, first, that your struggle is precisely the same as that that all other men have had. I am almost tempted to say some very personal things. If there is anything I do despise it is the self-made man



DR. S. A. FURNISS OF INDIANAPOLIS.

deal. "Laundry," "House-Moving," "Electric Plants" were other topics ably handled by representative business men.

Dr. Robert C. Ogden of the firm of John Wanamaker of New York and Philadelphia, delivered an address in

talking about himself. (Laughter and applause.) (Voices in the audience: Say it, say it!) He is usually a very vain sort of creature and when he regards himself as a self-made man he usually worships his maker. But we have all known struggle—all of us, I

think, almost every man. You go through the streets of New York or go up and down the country at large, and you will find that most of the men whose position you envy are men who have been through struggles as hard as yours. We all have to struggle.

Next, you must *holier* if you don't sell a clam. That means that you must advertise the Public Ledger.



MR. WALTER J. STEVENS,  
Successful Caterer of the Signet Club,  
Cambridge, Mass.

The time to be careful is when you have your hands full of trumps. Well, I said, I put these two or three things together and they make up the round of business maxims I work on. One is, you must keep on all the time, no matter what it costs. Another is, You must keep up your courage, no matter what the discouragements may be. And so with courage and with patience and with hope, we all have had, or have now our common problem. But I should like to go back just in this closing word to the beginning of what I tried to say, that although the limitations are great and the handicap is heavy, and although you have a great many friends who are sympathizing with you, and in such quiet ways as they can—there is no use of fighting prejudice with opposition; opposition is the food upon which prejudice feeds. Kindliness and patience and sound common

sense will win in the long run, and although the way may be long and the steps may be painful and slow, and although there are many sympathizing friends that in ways that are not known are striving to make the limitations lighter and the path smoother, yet out of it all the intelligent Colored man of America, measured by the Divine standard, has the greatest opportunity for usefulness that lies before any American.

On Friday morning, August 18th, after the invocation was pronounced by Rev. W. H. Scott of Woburn, Mass., the file of statistics, reports were in order. Mr. Walter P. Hall of Philadelphia, Mr. T. L. Grant of Charleston, S. C., discussed the subject: "The Retail and Wholesale Produce Business." The Chicago strike, and Negro labor, farming as a productive business, dairying and stock dealing, stock buying, the culture of strawberries, the growth of the Negro town, the Negro architect, undertaking and general merchandise were the other subjects liberally debated before the League.

Friday afternoon, about 600 delegates and friends boarded the elegantly appointed steamship Richmond for a ride up the Hudson river. This was a most enjoyable affair. The New Amsterdam orchestra furnished music for dancing during the entire trip. The Thursday evening picnic, given by the Colored Republican club of 53d street at Sulzer park, was most enjoyable. Over 2000 people attended. Craig's full orchestra furnished the music.

The banquet of the National Negro Business League, where over 600 delegates and citizens were seated, was most successfully conducted the organization has thus far witnessed. The Glenwood Park association of Bloomfield, N. J., tendered the delegates a reception and barbecue Saturday, the day following the close of the sessions of the National Negro Business League. The barbecue was a great success. A number of addresses were delivered by representative men and thus ended the 6th annual session of the National Negro Business League.

# THE NEW YORK MEETING OF THE NATIONAL NEGRO BUSINESS LEAGUE.

(By Roscoe Conkling Bruce.)

If you had ventured 50 years ago to prophesy to some courtly gentleman of old Virginia the emergence of bankers and brokers, inventors and professional men, manufacturers and entrepreneurs from the dead, unbroken level of the black population of the southern states, you would have been rewarded with uproarious laughter as



DR. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON,  
And His Executive Secretary, Mr. Emmett J. Scott, Reproduced from a Photograph Taken During the National Negro Business League Convention on the Occasion of the Barbecue Given in Bloomfield, N. J.—Photo by Prof. Roscoe Conkling Bruce of Tuskegee.

one who had cracked a daring joke, or else inspected with a quizzical smile as one whose wits hung by the ragged edge. But history plays strange pranks with contemporary

judgments of racial possibility, as if she would vindicate to the most recalcitrant skepticism the possibilities of sheer human nature. While experience, accumulated at first hand, too, gave the courtly Virginian fireproof convictions as to the capacity and sphere of the black man; while that matter of the premature closing of the cranial sutures in the Ethiop skull was being elaborated with elegant lucidity by cool-headed men of cocksure science—there was actually slumbering in those lowly blacks something of the grace and elusive possibility of human nature, and there was actually being acquired from the horrid discipline of slavery a kind of preparation for independent support.

At any rate the joke of 50 years ago has taken upon itself the garments of reality, and today I saw, at the meeting of the National Negro Business League, black bankers and brokers, inventors and manufacturers, professional men and entrepreneurs, in the flesh; I heard them tell piecemeal, with a candor that bore small trace of egotism, how they personally had managed to emerge from degradation. Such are the miracles of our day.

And in this assembly of black men curiously enough, the idea my mind seized upon is that their striving expresses qualities not only intensely human but also intensely American. It was an acute traveler in our land who remarked that, when all's said and done among us, a man's capacity is not beyond cavil if it couldn't run a hotel! That is to say, the distinctively American test is concrete achievement. Promises, plans, manifestos, controversial demonstrations of what you can do, excuses and complaints—to these the American will listen, perhaps, if not too busy; but these insubstantial arguments do not carry conviction. Your best argument is no argument—it is some definite and material achievement. It is the tangible that counts. I do not say, mind you, that this scheme of values is wholly defensible; I do say it is widely accepted and rather rigorously applied. And this point of view is precisely that of these Colored men. "We want to hear," said President



Washington tonight—"we want to hear from the man who has succeeded in his own community." And woe unto the luckless wight who obtrudes himself upon this assembly without some warrant of actual achievement! His armor of eloquence is invariably penetrated by some dart of a query from Booker Washington's arsenal of wit; and, amid uproarious laughter, the unfortunate is happy to shamble off the field as best he may.

These black men have, I repeat, the American point of view and temperament. They feel most keenly the unfair, grossly humiliating, and sometimes cruel treatment to which their people are subjected north and South because of race and color and condition and the past. Nowhere more surely than in this league will you find men who value the suffrage as the priceless privilege of American citizenship. These business men see very clearly the immense handicap disfranchisement in the south and the industrial boycott in the north place upon the black workman, the black shopkeeper, the black householder. But, these matters are outside the field of this particular organization. And besides these men do not quail in the presence of obstacles and injustice; in George Eliot's word, they are meliorists—they are in the best sense opportunists. Confident of their own ability, they quietly determine to succeed in the very teeth of discouragement. Their noteworthy success you may verify.

And it is fortunate that this attitude of the really substantial Negroes of the country should become especially conspicuous at a time when so acrimonious a controversy rages north and south about the central question. Has the Negro made good? It was, perhaps, inevitable that the enthusiasms handed down from the abolitionists should somewhat cool as time passed by. Superlative hopes were chilled with inevitable disappointment; and then, you know, even the sentiments are not always at fever heat. Enthusiasm is bound by its nature to relax or to chill. At the critical moment, then, in this reaction comes the much-needed assurance from these business league men that

in many fundamental concerns the Negro feels himself abundantly able to put his own house in order, and that more and more he is actually doing so. "We wants," said a somewhat un-literary delegate with an earnestness that commands essential respect—"we wants to continuoaly get in somethin', and to never let loose nuthin'."

The fact that even in South Carolina there are 15 drug stores which last year filled 70,000 prescriptions; the fact that one Harris of Washington, sold last year, 30,000 bottles of his blood tonic; the fact that the gross monthly rental of the properties of the Afro-American realty company of New York is \$4000; the fact that in 1905 Junius Groves dug out of his ground 72,150 bushels of white potatoes; the fact that there are in various states of the lower south six or seven thoroughly Negro towns, most of them efficiently administered; the fact that the True Reformers' bank of Richmond has today more than 10,000 depositors and assets exceeding half a million dollars; the fact that there are now in operation 15 or 20 really good Negro banks in various parts of the country—these facts, picked out at random, are intrinsically interesting and derive an infinitely greater significance from their highly representative character. To those whose faith in the black man has not wavered, such data are a reassurance, a balm and consolation. These are the arguments that our national bias approves and accepts. It was to such things that Booker Washington referred tonight when he said, "We can do more in a day to advance our cause than legislation could do in a year."

Yes, this is very nice, but how has the National Negro Business League contributed to these gratifying results? A single illustration may answer. At the first session of the league (August, 1900), just five years ago, there were in the United States only four banks owned and administered by Negroes—the Penny Savings bank of Birmingham, Ala., the ill-starred Capitol Savings bank of Washington, D. C., the True Reformers' bank and the Nickel Savings bank of Richmond, Va. At the present meeting reports show that since that time the following

banking institutions have been organized and are now in operation:

Mississippi—Vicksburg, Lincoln Savings bank, Union bank; Mound Bayou, Bank of Mound Bayou; Jackson, American Trust company; Greenville, Knights of Honor.

Arkansas—Little Rock, Capital City bank; Pine Bluff, Savings Bank of Pine Bluff.

Virginia—Richmond, Mechanics' bank, St. Luke's bank.

Florida—Jacksonville, Capital Trust company.

Tennessee — Nashville, One-Cent bank.

Georgia—Savannah, Savannah Trust company.

Indian Territory—Muskogee, Muskogee bank.

"There is not an institution in this list," says an officer of the league, "that will not acknowledge and does not acknowledge that it was established in answer to the call and influence of the National Negro Business League."

Here, then, is a single and, I think, sufficing illustration of the effectiveness of the league in stimulating business enterprise. The method of the founder and president is to interest the grocer, the baker, the candlestick maker in the annual sessions of the organization; to yield all attention and honor to their simple stories of how they made their various ways to success. Definite information, business-like devices, practical suggestions, ideas, swarm in the meetings. The business man finds himself pleasantly exalted, and every incentive to go and do likewise is made to play incessantly and with astonishing effect upon those who have not yet earned the right to participate in the discussions. In short, the business man—greengrocer or blacksmith or farmer or manufacturer of shoe polish—receives at the hands of Booker Washington an approbation and a social prestige that are very sweet to him and very stimulating to the rabble. It is in such fashion that the league contributes substantially to Negro business enterprise.

A funeral is not a tonic. A catalogue of wrongs is not potent for progress. Organized by Booker Washing-

ton six years ago, with no flare of trumpets, endowed with his sound philosophy, enriched by his experience, buttressed by his eminence in American life, inspired by his circum-spect optimism, the National Negro Business League exerts a tonic effect upon the Negro people and is potent for progress because it flees the wall of Jeremiah to join hands with a black potato king, abashing lamentations with achievements.

#### GOOD BUSINESS ADVICE.

By John Wanamaker.

(Being Extracts from an Address Delivered Before the National Negro Business League, New York, Friday, Aug. 18, 1905.)

You are beginning at the best time that America has ever had. You are



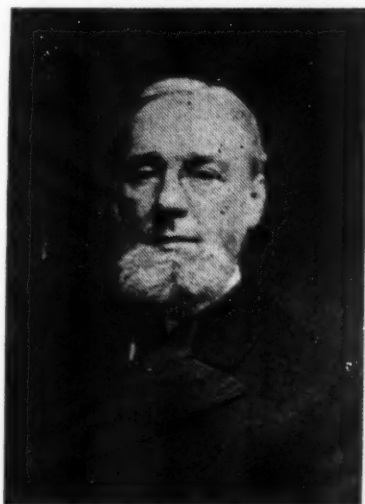
HON. JOHN WANAMAKER,

Merchant-Prince, Whose Address at the National Negro Business League Delighted 2000 People.

beginning with great friendships, and great hopes for your success. You are at a moment of great responsibility because the world is watching closely every step you take to meas-

ure your capacity for citizens and for a right to the place that you claim to walk along in in the conduct of business with other men.

The very existence of this Business League leaves upon its face an indictment against expectation of progress by chance, by favoritism, by sympathy. You cannot afford to stop for a single minute in longing to become the ward of the nation, to be paid for services that you did in the war, to be considered, because of any handicap that you may feel to be



DR. ROBERT C. OGDEN,

Whose Address at the National Negro Business League in New York Was Received With Great Enthusiasm.

upon you. I believe that it has been proven that every dependence upon politics that promised you to make successful homes and successful businesses has been a disappointment.

I am not going to attempt in the few minutes which your courtesy gives me, Mr. President, to speak to you about questions that you know much more about than I can tell you. But I am going to voice the deep conviction of my heart, that it is not the success or failure, it is not a matter

of race, it is not a matter of face, or a matter of place; it is a matter of grace. And the same grace of God that has given the white man a sense of what education does for him, of what character does for him, of what sympathy does for him, of what truth and honor does for him—that grace is as much yours as if by some miracle while I speak to you, your faces were turned white. The good God is the father of us all. You have His grace and you can turn it off as with the button I can turn off the electric lights that are burning. So can I; so can you.

If you go home and think you have had this wonderful reception in our city, because of the great respect that is paid everywhere to your distinguished president, because of the growing confidence that goes justly out toward the man that has formed this league because of the splendid partners you have brought with you—that this is the biggest part of your meeting, you will have made a serious mistake. I did not suppose that the women, your partners, were a part of your convention until I came. You are very wise if you take them into your business. I am very sure that in every city there are thousands of men that will stand up and tell you that if they had taken the advice of their wives on business matters, they would have saved their fortunes. But if you go back and think because of the many flattering things that have made your sessions here, of the favorable comments that are everywhere spoken, of confidence that you have found the right track if you will run your train upon it, with good sober, careful engineers, and if you have some objection to make, if you go back to get down to the hard work, each man for himself, cultivating the thing that he has begun to grow with it, then there will be a result worthy of all this time and interest and prayer that is being made for your success.

It is quite an old story—it may have been told here about the great ambassador at the Court of St. James—the distinguished lawyer of New York, Mr. Joseph Choate; coming over from

India a gentleman said: "What kind of a man is that Mr. Choate of yours?" "Well, what do you want to know about him? He is a great lawyer, he is a very wise man, and he is a man that everybody has very great confidence in." "But he says such strange things—for example, you know in our country (England) we don't sit at a breakfast table; the people come down to the country houses, find breakfast on the sideboard, take a plate and take whatever they find there and which they want, sit down on the window-sill or stand in a little group as they please. "Now," said he, "at a house party a lady came down in the morning and went to the sideboard, helped herself to some boiled eggs. As she started off, not noticing what she was doing, the eggs fell and smashed; she was standing there with her hand uplifted, bemoaning the accident; Mr. Choate stepped in, when she said, 'Oh, see what I have done; what shall I do now; what shall I do now.' Mr. Choate simply said 'Cackle.'" This is an old New York story though I have brought it over the sea. Now, my friends, if you go home and cackle and that is all you do, you will have spent your time for nothing; on the other hand, if you take to heart the encouragements, if you can see a hand pointing a good road to follow, if you will get up, walk on and do something—do it for yourselves and not expect some one else to do it for you, I cannot for the life of me see why you should be discouraged.

And if you are not content simply to work for board and lodging, and a small one at that—if you are content don't go to school, don't buy a book, don't subscribe for a newspaper, but if you are not content, if you realize that there is a man inside of you and that the world does not want so much to add to its population as it does to have more man inside of every man, making the man more of a man and making him more useful as the days go on—if you will do that, we strike hands together because our hearts are one to make this the greatest country. It is that already—yes; there is no such king as our President in his leadership for civic righteousness; he

is a thousand churches under the dome. And every man that believes that and stands by it, whatever his difficulty is, is a sharer in the destiny of our country and in its coming glory.

#### WHAT THE NEGRO BUILDER IS DOING IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

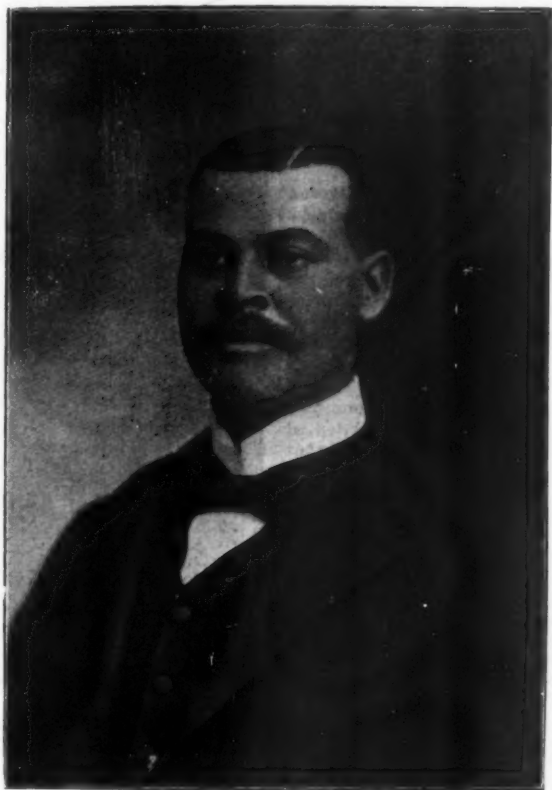
By John A. Lankford.

(Being Extracts from an Address Delivered Before the National Negro Business League, New York, Friday, Aug. 18, 1905.)

In Washington the capital of the nation, the Negro has designed and built some of the most substantial, beautiful and artistic private and public buildings. I have been reliably informed that Calvin Brent, who died some six years ago, at one time, was the leading architect and builder in the city of Washington. He not only designed and built for public and private use, but built up squares of vacant ground and used them as real estate investments. The district records show that in 1892-93 a Negro builder in Washington had 40 buildings under construction at one time. A conservative estimate of Negro builders in Washington is about 24, architects two. Of course, there are many jobbers and draughtsmen, but the number stated depend wholly on their business for a living. We have hundreds of mechanics of different trades. It is estimated that we have 300 Negro bricklayers, 21 of whom the government employs on the large War and Navy college and are at work today on that magnificent structure. Less than 20 days ago the largest white brick constructor in Washington went south and brought 40 Negro bricklayers to replace that number of whites who were at work on one of the largest buildings that is now under construction. The Negro architects and builders are doing well in Washington; in fact, it is said that there has never been so many Negroes at work for the city and government as now, and we could today put 500 more to work and have places to spare. The field is now very great with very little discrimination, and we

should grasp this great opportunity. In the past three years I have designed for Washington and fifteen states of the Union nearly \$6,000,000 worth of buildings. I have designed, overhauled and built in Washington and vicinity over \$700,000 worth of property during the same time. I had the

Negro can do, and has done with his brain, skill and money. This building was designed, built and paid for in cash, is occupied and controlled by Negroes. It has done more to give new life to the Negro architects and builders and lift the standard of work of this kind and character in Wash-



J. A. LANKFORD.

pleasure of designing, and supervising the construction of the \$100,000 office, lodge and store-room building for the True Reformers of Richmond, Va. The building is 60x100 feet, five stories and basement, located on a corner lot of one of the principal streets of Washington; and being in Washington, it stands out to the civilized world as an example of what the

ington, and in fact throughout the country than any other one thing we know of.

I have in my office today \$85,000 worth of buildings to design; \$25,000 worth of work under construction, about 175 men at work as mechanics, five as superintendents of construction, two as architects, one engineer,

one stenographer, one bookkeeper and clerk.

The harvest is now great and the mechanics are comparatively few; as an architect and builder, and president of the Washington Negro Business League, I would advise any skilled Negro workman with pluck and push, coupled with some finance, to make a venture along this line, if possible, in the community in which you live; if not, come to Washington and we will assist you.

#### A BIT OF PERSONAL EXPERIENCE.

By E. C. Brown.

(Extract from an address delivered before the National Negro Business League.)

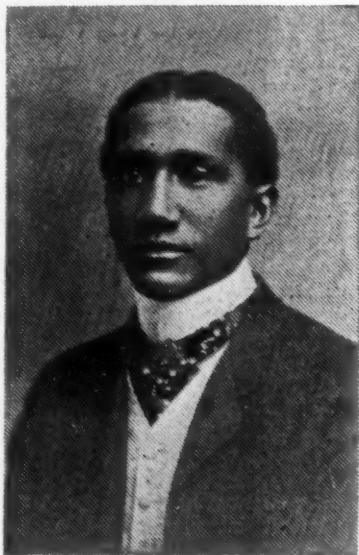
In selling property locally, I have found it nearly as difficult to get the property on my list at the right price as to sell it. I always make it a point to tell a client frankly whether the prospects are favorable for selling his property at the price he puts on it. There is nothing in an agent having a big book full of properties at fancy prices, knowing full well that he cannot sell them, but hoping some one will come along some day looking for just that place at that price. The thing he wants to do is to get the property listed at a figure that he can start out with enthusiasm, feeling that he has a bargain; he is then pretty apt to make a sale.

An agent should know values thoroughly in his field of operations, he cannot be a successful agent unless he does.

Another very important thing in a real estate agent's life and in fact in the life of every business man, if he intends doing much business, is his relationship with his bank or banker. He must have some place to get money when he wants it. He should endeavor to get the confidence of his bank, and this can only be obtained by strict attention to business. His paper should be looked after punctually and in a way that will impress the bank that he is a safe man and knows what he is doing. I can truthfully say that I have never allowed a note to go to protest nor overdrawn my

bank account. I have pursued this policy steadily ever since I have been in business, with the result that I have built a credit with the banks in my city that I am more than proud of. Suffice it to say that I have never been turned down on any proposition I have taken them; of course, I never go to them with anything unreasonable. To bear me out in this, I have here a letter from Schmelz Bros., the leading bankers in the Peninsula section of Virginia.

I am doing business in my own



MR. E. C. BROWN,  
Successful Real Estate Dealer of New  
port News, Va.

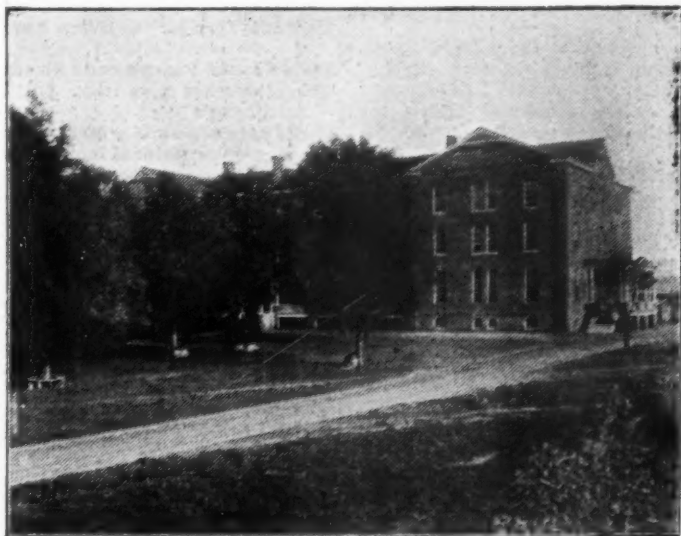
property consisting of a two-story pressed brick building. My office is as well furnished and equipped and my facilities just as good for handling business as any in the city. I have surrounded myself with a capable force of office assistants. My stenographer and bookkeeper is a young lady, a graduate of the Jackson Business college of Jackson, Mich. The young man who has charge of my rental department is a graduate of



the law department of Shaw university. My insurance department is in charge of a young man from the Hampton Normal and Industrial Institute. The men who look after my repair department are all good skilled mechanics in all I furnish employment to eight people.

In conclusion will say that I believe the real estate business offers a splendid field for the young Colored man who will go in with the determination to win, and who is not afraid of hard work. For a young man with a small capital and no ex-

ton of New York and Brock of Philadelphia, and a score of others I could name who will give the brothers in black "a square deal," who will influence them to buy property and become land owners, who will, in a frank and honest way clear up all their suspicions, doubts, and fears as to notes, deeds of trust, mortgages, interest and the like, and who will convince them that the same money they are paying for rent will buy a home. Agents who will have the best interests of their race and community at heart and who are keenly alive to



FOSTER HALL, GIRLS' DORMITORY, TALLADEGA COLLEGE.

perience, the south undoubtedly offers a better field than the north. While the field of operation may not be as large nor the inducements as great, still competition is less keen and recognition quicker. Any city or town that can afford a Colored preacher, physician, lawyer or any other professional or business man, can support a Colored real estate agent.

What we need is intelligent, hustling, scrupulous agents, men like Pay-

all the great possibilities around them. Agents who, while they are in the business for what there is in it, are too honorable to take any advantage of ignorance. To this class of agents there awaits success and wealth in the real estate business.

#### AS TO TALLADEGA COLLEGE.

Talladega college about which Mr. Archibald H. Grimke writes so well in this number of Alexander's magazine

is one of the best institutions in the south for the education of Negroes. Dr. Benjamin Markley Nyce, the president, is a gentleman of broad culture and liberal education. Under his management the college has made marked improvement in every department and the Negroes in the "black belt" of Alabama, as well as the entire south, are greatly blessed.

CHARLES ALEXANDER.

#### RESIGNATION.

By Edward Winfred Sherman.

(Written for Alexander's Magazine.)

I know not what there be in store,  
For me in other spheres;  
But, in this wilderness I know,  
That sweetest pleasures fleetest flow,  
And deed their wake to tears.

I cannot pierce the ethereal blue,  
To hallowed realms of light;  
To know the service angels do,  
And catch the rhythmic hallaluyah,  
They sing with saints delight.

Suffice it me to walk the road  
Of mortals of my sphere;  
With resignation, bear the load,  
O'er beaten paths or rougher sod,  
That other mortals bear.

Then, if perchance I fall or faint,  
My journey incomplete;  
I meet my fate without complaint,  
And mock the example of the Saint,  
My burden at my feet.

I know not if my future way,  
With flowers or thorns be strewn;  
Contented, I abide the day,  
Though, yet unseen, still do I pray,  
"O God! Thy will be done."

I know not what there be in store  
For me in other spheres;  
But in this wilderness I know,  
We mortals reap just what we sow,  
If tears we gather tears.

O, thou the source of righteousness,  
Guide thou my feet aright;  
While yet I tread this wilderness,  
In pain, in sorrow and distress,  
Lend thou a kindly light.

And when the Watchman summons  
me,

To duties in a sphere  
I know not of, O may I be,  
Then and throughout eternity,  
Prepared to answer "Here."

#### THE THINGS I MISS.

An easy thing, O Power divine,  
To thank Thee for these gifts of  
Thine;  
For summer's sunshine, winter's snow,  
For hearts that kindle, thoughts that  
glow,  
But when shall I attain to this—  
To thank Thee for the things I miss?

For all young Fancy's early gleams  
The dreamed-of joys that still are  
dreams,  
Hopes unfulfilled and pleasures known  
Through other fortunes, not my own,  
And blessings seen that are not given,  
And ne'er will be this side of Heaven.

Had I, too, shared the joys I see,  
Would there have been a Heaven for  
me?

Could I have felt Thy presence near  
Had I possessed what I held dear?  
My deepest fortune, highest bliss,  
Have grown, perchance, from things I  
miss.

Sometimes there comes an hour of  
calm;

Grief turns to blessings, pain to balm;  
A Power that works above my will  
Still leads me onward, upward still;  
And then my heart attains to this—  
To thank Thee for the things I miss.

—Thomas Wentworth Higginson.

Some of the arts are nearer to the welfare of man than others, and the same is true of the sciences. Two arts, however, lie very near human welfare, and if we were called upon to give up all of the arts but two there would be little difference in choice as to which two should be preserved. The one most important would be the art of agriculture and the next art of healing. Man first of all must be nourished and next to this, kept in health.

# Alexander's Magazine

**CHARLES ALEXANDER**  
**EDITOR & PUBLISHER**

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AT THE POST OFFICE AT BOSTON, MASS.  
UNDER THE ACT OF CONGRESS  
OF MARCH 3, 1879.

## DR. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON'S MISTAKE.

The paradoxical attitude of the white south is hard to understand. Southern white people have been praising Booker T. Washington as a most useful sort of citizen. He has enriched hundreds of white men by his transactions in a business way and his propaganda has proved most helpful to both whites and blacks in every section of the country. Yesterday, the south found fault with the Negro's ignorance, shiftlessness and stupidity; today it finds fault with his enterprise and competition in the handicrafts; yesterday, it praised Booker Washington for the work of uplifting he carried on at Tuskegee; today, it complains of the intelligence and self-respect of his students; yesterday, it tolerated his entertainment by a southern governor; today, it is violently wrathful because he is entertained by a man in private life. Here is the plain story and we frankly state our disapproval of Dr. Washington's attitude. Mr. John Wanamaker, the merchant prince of Philadelphia, is a Christian gentleman of culture, refinement and great wealth and according to our way of thinking has a perfect right to invite anyone to dine with him and his family he may choose. Dr. Booker T. Washington is a man of large experience, intelligence and culture and dur-

ing his lifetime, has handled a great many dollars. According to our way of thinking, he has a perfect right to accept the invitation to dine with any person who may invite him to do so. It is not surprising to us that he should be invited to dine in a fashionable hotel at Saratoga by such a distinguished citizen as Mr. John Wanamaker, and it is not surprising to us that he accepted the invitation, which he had a perfect right to do.

We have known Dr. Washington since 1894, when we first met him in Boston. He impressed us then as a man having elements of greatness in him and he has more than sustained this good impression during the number of years we have known him. We have always honored him as a great leader and many times have declared him the greatest Negro that this country has thus far produced. We were shocked therefore, to read in the newspapers recently, that he, a man of such wonderful courage and high character should apologize to the south for doing a thing which he, as an American citizen, had a perfect right to do. We regard the apology as untimely and entirely out of harmony with previous acts of this distinguished man. If Dr. Washington or any other man of prominence of the Negro race is to be denied the privilege of dining with an individual or his family on his invitation because of some vehement and bitter feeling in the southern states opposing such action, what will become of the fellow who has money in his pocket and is willing to pay his way in the restaurants, cafes and hotels of the land. Shall the work of Lincoln, Sumner, Phillips and Garrison and the martyr, John Brown, be counted for naught in this advance period of American civilization. Dr. Washington represents the entire Negro race, and yet there are thousands of wise Negroes throughout the country that would not act as he did in this matter. There was absolutely no excuse for the attitude taken by him.

Already, we have learned of doors being closed to representative and intelligent colored citizens in public places in the city of Boston; all because a large element of aggressive

southern men have invaded our community and are disseminating their views inimical to the best interest of our people. The daily newspapers of New York, Philadelphia and Boston, as well as Chicago are employing to-day hundreds of young southern men who put into their editorial writings as well as their repertorial contributions the sentiments regarding the Negro that best please the southern whites and if a distinguished man like Booker Washington, the acknowledged leader of his race, yields to the prevailing suggestion, what is to become of the young element who is not so highly honored and respected and who cannot enforce their notions of the common rights of man?

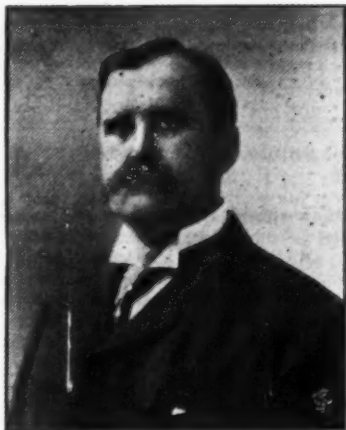
We regret exceedingly the necessity of writing such an article, all because we have such a profound regard for Dr. Washington personally and the noble work he is doing in the interest of the Negro race, but we do not believe in cringing; we do not believe in servility; we do not believe in yielding an honorable position to any such truculent and destructive sentiments as operate against the Negro in the southern states. We believe in standing squarely on our feet. Dr. Washington would have shown a great deal more manliness if he had gone on about his business and paid no attention whatever to the abusive criticism and vilification heaped upon him and Mr. Wanamaker by the southern press. It takes but an instant to spoil a good record. We think that the judicious course would have been, absolute silence on his part. He has lost thousands of staunch friends both among the white and black people in this country by his attitude and has done the cause for which he has worked so vigilantly during the past 20 years, incalculable harm. We have had experience enough with the south to know that silence in this case would have been golden.

#### HON. EUGENE N. FOSS, CHAM- PION OF RECIPROCITY.

That was an excellent presentation of the reciprocal view point made by the Hon. Eugene N. Foss of Boston, on the topic "Reciprocity as a Polit-

ical Issue," before the National Reciprocity conference held in Chicago, Ill., Wednesday, August 16, 1905. Speaking of the movement in Massachusetts, Mr. Foss said in part:

The Boston Chamber of Commerce, the most influential and representative body of business men in New England, had petitioned Congress, through our representatives, more than once in favor of closer trade relations with Canada and Newfoundland. Like all other resolutions and petitions of this kind, however, while they were cour-



HON. EUGENE N. FOSS.

teously received and acknowledged by our representatives, they really made no impression, for no aggressive action was taken by business men in following them up.

About one year ago the business men became aroused and, at the initiative of the directors of the Chamber of Commerce, a so-called Committee of One Hundred was organized, composed of the leading merchants and manufacturers of the state. This was a bi-partisan organization, although its composition, as a matter of fact, was overwhelmingly Republican.

This Committee at once went to work in the interest of reciprocity with Canada and Newfoundland. A canvass of the State was made, and it

was found in Republican Massachusetts that more than sixty thousand Republicans would and did gladly sign a declaration, affirming the principle of trade reciprocity, "not to be confined to non-competitive products;" pledging themselves to attend the primaries and urging Republican voters to nominate no person as a candidate for state or national office unwilling to commit himself clearly in favor of reciprocity. The following is the full text of the declaration:

"The undersigned Republicans, approving the election of Theodore Roosevelt for President of the United States, believe as the late James G. Blaine and President McKinley believed, and wisely advised, that the establishment of reciprocal trade relations with other countries, and especially with Canada and Newfoundland, our nearest neighbors, is of vital importance to the commercial welfare of the United States, and especially that of Massachusetts.

"We are further confirmed in this belief by the provision made therefor in the Dingley Bill, and by the action of Secretary of State Hay in negotiating treaties for reciprocal trade relations with other countries.

"We therefore urge upon Republican voters of this State the paramount importance to our business interests, of establishing such relations with Canada and Newfoundland, not to be confined to non-competitive products. We promise to attend the caucuses, and also to urge Republican voters not to nominate any person as a candidate for the State or National Legislature who is unwilling to commit himself clearly in favor of such reciprocal trade relations."

The canvass began July 13 and ended August 31. No attempt was made to cover the whole state. The motive of the canvass was to make such a test of the sentiment, on the question of reciprocity among the Republican voters, as would be acknowledged generally by fair-minded men to be conclusive. The canvass was confined to Republicans exclusively, because this is the dominant party of the State.

#### One Result of Organized Effort.

As a result of this organized ef-

fort, supplemented by a subsequent specific declaration of the Committee of One Hundred addressed "to the Republican voters of Massachusetts" the Republican State Platform of 1904 declared as follows:

"We also believe that still further measures should be taken toward negotiating reciprocity treaties with foreign countries and especially with Canada and Newfoundland, upon such terms and conditions as will secure an enlargement of our foreign trade, for the common benefit of our people, wherever reciprocal arrangements can be effected consistently with the principles of protection and without injury to American agriculture, American labor or American industries, or when, as President Roosevelt said in his message of 1902, 'The minimum of damage done may be disregarded for the sake of the maximum of good accomplished.'

"In the language of the President's letter of acceptance, 'We are on record as favoring arrangements for reciprocal trade relations with other countries, the arrangements to be on an equitable basis of benefit to both of the contracting parties.'"

This was advanced ground for a Massachusetts Republican Convention to take. As was expected, it met with strong opposition on the part of the Home Market club, a representative high tariff organization. The gentleman nominated for governor on this platform accepted the nomination, but never declared for the principles. As a result, he was overwhelmingly defeated; and we had the anomalous spectacle of Republican Massachusetts electing Roosevelt President by eighty thousand, and a Democratic governor by nearly forty thousand in the same ballot boxes.

#### PROF. EDWARD A. JOHNSON AND HIS BOOKS.

In the fabulous narratives of pagan antiquity we read of a strange and wonderful mirror endowed with properties so rare that by looking into it, its possessor could discover any object which he might wish to see, however remote; and at the same time

discover with equal ease and clearness persons and things above, below, behind, and before him. This fictitious glass may never have existed; but the mind of a true novelist is infinitely more valuable than such a mirror.

Prof. E. A. Johnson of Raleigh, N. C., a most versatile and pleasing writer is the author of a number of books dealing with the past, the present and the future of the American Negro. His mind is a veritable mirror, reflecting all sorts of pictures of Negro progress, achievements and possibilities. His last book, "Light Ahead for the Negro," is about to go into a second edition. Professor Johnson has a wonderful record for selling books to members of his race. The secret of his success lies in the fact that whatever he writes is written from the Negro point of view and in an intelligent and able manner. The white man's view of the Negro, as a rule, lends no inspiration or encouragement to a struggling race.

When Prof. John Uri Lloyd brought out his remarkable book "Etidorhpa," in 1895, there were people who claimed that the story was wholly impracticable; but a few months witnessed discoveries that told of the value of Professor Lloyd's suggestions. So in the case of Professor Johnson's great story, "Light Ahead for the Negro." The new anesthetic discovered by Prof. C. Redard followed close upon the publication of this story by a Negro author. The following clipping will explain the action of the newly-discovered anesthetic by Prof. C. Redard of Geneva, Switzerland, which follows in the wake of Prof. Johnson's idea of the curative power of "Violet" rays of light as set forth in his wonderful romance. Physicians and the public will welcome the idea that anesthesia can be produced by means of blue light without injurious consequences. The process was discovered by Prof. C. Redard of Geneva, Switzerland, and has been used by him for some time. Prof. Johnson's hero undergoes the following experience: "She saw my misery and suggested that I go into the room used to cure nervousness and that I remain as long as possible. I passed stupidly through

the door she had opened for me and had hardly sat down before I felt soothed—the only color visible was violet. Walls, ceiling, carpet, furniture, all violet of different shades. An artificial light of the same color fills the room. And the air? What was there in it?" So writes the author of "Light Ahead for the Negro," about his hero who had accidentally come to earth by the collapse of an air-ship, all of which goes to show that the author had struck upon a deep scientific truth when he made the violet rays of light a curative for nervousness or nervous affections.

This leads us to remark further that we know of nothing in Negro romance that gives a deeper insight into the race question and a fairer prophecy of the future than this volume. It is a most interesting and instructive book and ought to be in the home of every Negro in the land.

#### THE YOUNG NEGRO IN BUSINESS.

Prof. William E. B. Dubois, in an agonizing plaint, uttered this sentiment in one of his best chapters in "The Souls of Black Folk." "To be a poor man is hard, but to be a poor race in a land of dollars is the very bottom of hardship." Perhaps the keen realization of this fact having been appreciated by a few progressive Negroes has given birth to one of the most remarkable movements ever started in this country. The annual meetings held by the National Negro Business League, furnish inspiration and impetus to thousands. Those who go to seek information concerning tangible results of hard work are amply repaid and justified, and those who go to hear the story of Negro progress as a matter of curiosity merely, return to their homes convinced that the Negro is susceptible of the same sort of influences that move and shape the destinies of other races, and that under favorable conditions, he is capable of real progress along all practical lines of human endeavor.

There is a certain witchery in the contact of the dominating spirit of these conventions. The picture of a Negro boy, born in slavery, under conditions not more favorable than those



of a rat, or a kitten, and who has made his way up in the world, furnishes an example that is convincing.

Because it is the habit of the newspapers and magazines to select as examples, only those who acquire some sort of political standing, we have decided to present the portraits of a few of the younger men who have made their mark within the last four or five years. Mr. J. A. Lankford of Washington, D. C., started with less than \$100 as an architect and builder. He is now doing a business of upward of \$20,000 a year.

Mr. Edward C. Brown, real estate dealer of Newport News, Va., started only five years ago with less than \$100 and has been able, in this brief period, to acquire property to the value of \$10,000.

As stated by himself before the convention in New York, Mr. Walter J. Stevens of Cambridge, Mass., an exception to the rule of young Negro men born in New England, is now doing business nine months in the year of \$15,000.

Mr. Fred D. Patterson of Greenfield, Ohio, is one of the most successful carriage manufacturers in the state and is supplying vehicles of various styles and sizes to a great many prosperous people of the Southern States.

But these stories of the success of young men might be enumerated into the hundreds. Many of our young men who are carving out a livelihood and building up a bank account in these days, are not given very much attention.

#### W. H. COUNCILL A PHILOSOPHER.

Prof. W. H. Council, President of the Agricultural and Mechanical College for Negroes at Normal, Ala., is a philosopher as well as a cogent writer and splendid educator. We have selected from an address delivered by him before the Eureka Club Lyceum of Decatur, Ala., on Industrialism plus Industriousness and Good-Will, a few brief paragraphs:

"That class of Negroes who by their labor and influence cultivate thirty-two fortieths of the cotton of the south, own nearly 400,000 homes and farms, maintain the Negro churches,

schools, Negro newspapers, authors, inventors, banking institutions, insurance companies (although many of these enterprises are young, as those of the whites were less than two hundred years ago) still, they are forging their way to the top and dragging the entire Negro race upward. There is a good Negro element, and this element should be studied. If men go round looking for bad Negroes they will find them; if they look for good



PROF. W. H. COUNCILL.

Negroes, they will find them. It depends upon what a man wants to see. It is unkind to take the small criminal element in the race as representing the whole race.

"As I have just said, usefulness is the standard of measurement. Men often measure by power, wealth, color, but the great God who sees the growth of the human family from Adam to the present, and on, shows that use alone is His criterion in the selection of material for the everlasting building of humanity. Egypt, Ninevah, Babylon—all were rejected because of their materialism and blood; but the humble Jew rose, by the greatness of

his humble usefulness to mankind. to be the chief corner-stone in God's great building of humanity.

"What a Negro will be depends entirely upon his attitude toward himself, as well as toward other people. The Negro must be a Negro. He must not seek to unrace himself, but ever seek to develop in his own sphere as a Negro, after his own nature, and then he will succeed. He should not attempt to get away from his black skin, discard his kinks, be ashamed of his physical features in general. But let him straighten the kinks on the inside, whiten his face through his heart, adorn his physical features through his intelligence; magnify and exalt himself into the recognition of the civilized world. He will be respected in proportion as he respects himself.

"The white man grows by faith in his own silken hair, his blue eyes and strong muscles. He does not seek to run away from himself, but he is true to his own nature.

"If every black man would say all the good things he can about every white man and do all the good things he can for every white man; and if every white man would say all the good things he can about every black man, and do all the good things he can for every black man, the race problem would disappear, amid the sunshine of love, peace and prosperity forever."

#### AS TO THE BIG NEGRO.

There are several features of the proceedings of the annual meeting of the National Negro Business League that impresses the average plain citizen very unpleasantly and has a tendency to fix in his mind the belief that nearly every delegate to the convention is a sort of inflated personality rather than a practical person and one of these strange features is the exaggerated speech of a fellow who comes from a rural district or town of limited population, and who, during the course of one year gets glimpse of three or four thousand dollars, but declares before the men who are willing to listen to him, that he has an

annual income on account of his business of from \$20,000 to \$50,000—that he actually started in business on the enormous capital of \$1.15 in cash; but at the time, he was indebted to several people in various parts of the country and on account of a little superior tact and business zeal during 12 months, he paid off all of his indebtedness and made the marvelous success to which he directs attention with so much enthusiasm. Many people who wish the Negro well, comment liberally upon this feature of the proceedings. Indeed a gentleman of considerable wealth and high standing remarked that he never imagined that there were so many rich Negroes in the country.

Some of these delegates speak of having as high as 100 houses all rented to Colored people in this immediate community; whereas if a little explanation could accompany the statement, those who hear the story of his wonderful prosperity would get a better idea of the actual status of the individual. Some times the case is that 100 houses such as our delegates refer to with so much pride is worth a good deal less than a two-story brick building in the Bowery. Another feature that stands out as a mark for harsh criticism is the prominence given to professional men. The actual business man must take a back seat when the big preacher or lawyer or physician or politician makes his appearance. It would be very unfortunate if so worthy a movement as the National Negro Business League should become dominated by those who are not actually engaged in business, but make their money on uncertain investments of wit and "hot air" as it has been expressed by some who have had the most cordial relations with the promoters of the movement. The development of the commercial habit among Negroes is very important and vital to the future of the race in the United States, and in these annual meetings more time and attention should be devoted to setting forth of the best principles for guidance in business practice and the best methods to pursue upon entering a commercial career.

### A LITTLE FUN WITH A SOUTHERN DELEGATE.

New York City is the one place in all the world to witness all sorts of sights and to learn the secrets of all sorts of games. Some of the games peculiar to this great city are played in the day-time, while others are played at night. One of our southern delegates to the National Negro Business League was aimlessly passing along one of those streets that run from one avenue to another, when he very suddenly jostled against a small boy carrying several kittens in a basket, when a stranger stepped up to our unsophisticated delegate, and in a bland and insinuating manner, displaced soon, on contact, by a more serious, but familiar air, slapped him on the shoulder and said in what seemed at first an agreeable sort of voice:

"Contemplating the precipitous embryonic development of feline propagation, Eh, my Colored friend!" and before our delegate could reply to this rather peculiar comment on his action, the stranger thrust a \$5 bill in his hand and with uncertain meaning in his voice, remarked as he passed:

"Precocious entity of evolved, ebony-hued protoplasm, meet your white benefactor on this electric-lighted territory on tomorrow evening (imagine, dear reader, the night of the banquet!) two hours after the dazzling, diurnal luminary shall have eventually dimmed its luminosity be silently seeking his nocturnal habitation behind the occidental horizon—and don't fall upon the sure peril of your life!"

Our delegate having depleted the funds brought from his southern home felt unusually happy for a while; but he began to meditate upon the meaning of such a meeting and to ask himself what it all meant and to save his life, he could not forget the strange combination of words used by the stranger—they weighed heavily upon his mind. Then when he reached the Palm Garden, he found a Special Delivery letter awaiting him, but there was no signature. The letter read: "I'm Howlin' Jim, a terrible cyclone and whirlwind in my quietest moments. I am first cousin to Joe De-

struction; but one hot summer's day, we melted and ran together and now I am the whole thing. Peace gives me great trouble and I am never at rest. I eat lion hearts and tiger brains for every meal and play with lightning and thunder as I would with a child's toy." The letter was not completed, but a foot note gave warning that unless our southern delegate was on the spot at the time indicated, the world would not last another day so far as he was concerned. We did not see our friend at the banquet.

### SUCCESS OF NEGRO BUSINESS MEN IN THE UNITED STATES.

The New York Tribune of Sunday, August 13th, contained a half page article under the caption, "Success of Negro Business Men in the United States." This article is a splendid review of the success of Negroes in various lines of commercial industry. Not only are the bankers and manufacturers given full credit for the success which they have attained, but as much attention is also given to those who toil upon the soil. Perhaps the most remarkable character mentioned in the article is Mr. Junius G. Groves of Edwardsville, Kansas, known throughout the west as the Negro Potato King. This man in a single year, dug out of the ground owned by him, 72,150 bushels of potatoes. So far as reports show, Mr. Groves produces 12,000 bushels more than any other farmer in the west. Another notable character who is given a brief mention is the Hon. Isalah T. Montgomery, a land agent of the Illinois Central railroad, who founded a town in Mississippi 14 years ago. Mr. Montgomery is a remarkable character having served as the private secretary to Jefferson Davis before the war. The article is one worth careful reading.

### AS TO PATENT MEDICINES AND THEIR VALUE.

Mr. Edward Bok, editor of the "Ladies' Home Journal," is rendering the public a great service by exposing some of the fraudulent methods employed by patent medicine concerns in this country. We notice in the current

number a signed letter from Hon. George H. White, ex-United States congressman from North Carolina, denied that he ever wrote a testimonial for the Peruna Medicine company, of Columbus, Ohio, or that he or any member of his family ever used the nostrum manufactured by this concern. Another telling blow is against the Lydia A. Pinkham Vegetable Compound. Lydia A. Pinkham died in Lynn, Mass., 1883, just 22 years ago and yet her advertisement in thousands of the papers throughout the United States, lead the women to believe that Mrs. Pinkham gives their letters her very personal attention and that she is actually at work in her well equipped laboratory at Lynn.

A very fine experiment was made by Dr. A. J. Read with several of the patent medicines now sold in enormous quantities in this country and according to the experiment, it is proven that any one of the medicines analyzed contained more poison than the worst grade of lager beer. As we have said above, Mr. Bok is rendering the public a very valuable service in his series of articles under the caption: "PICTURES THAT TELL THEIR OWN STORY."

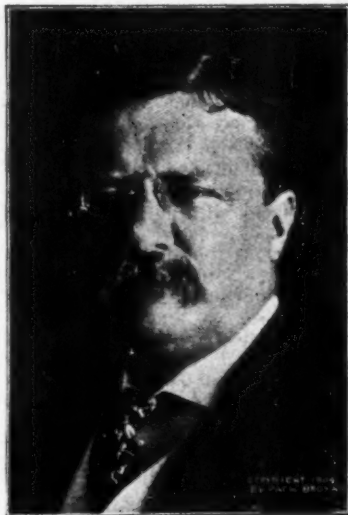
#### MARYLAND AND THE NEGRO.

Considerable significance will attach to the vote in Maryland in November. An attempt will be made to disfranchise the Negro voters and this act may be characterized as the high tide of the disfranchising movement under constitutional forms which began in Mississippi, under the leadership of the late Senator George, 15 years ago. If the Poe amendment be defeated in the November referendum, the fact will signify that the force of the movement has begun to decline, or at least that it has reached already its culminating phase. There are very encouraging signs that the amendment will be beaten by the thoughtful voters of Maryland. The campaign against it, which is directed mainly by independent Democrats, and is powerfully sustained by Maryland's strong independent newspaper, the Baltimore News, seems to be making conspicuous headway. The Republi-

can party's vote will be thrown probably with substantial solidity against the amendment, because the disfranchisement of the Negroes would impair its strength; and the Democracy is likely to be so divided on the issue that success for the measure seems very doubtful.

#### JAPAN'S GREAT VICTORY.

The world owes Japan its profound respect for the showing of broad-mindedness, liberal spirit and splendid magnanimity which terminated the peace conference at Portsmouth, N. H., the latter part of August. Making every allowance of M. Witte's



PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

fine diplomacy, it still remains true in the treaty of peace as in war, Japan is the victor. The president of the United States comes in for his share of congratulations from a grateful American public for the triumph which he achieved in bringing about peace between Russia and Japan. The president's fine diplomatic skill, as well as the impartial attitude exhibited toward each of

the nations and the plain common sense which characterized his movements is a compliment to his head and heart, and the American people feel doubly proud of such an executive.

#### WHAT SORT OF MIND HAS DIXON?

Thomas Dixon, Jr., declares that the rebels who made up the organization known during the period between 1867 and 1870 as the Ku Klux Klan were God-fearing, peace-loving, law-abiding, patriotic southerners—indeed they were the guardians of civilization in the south and its members were the salt of the earth. We might suggest that if such God-fearing, peace-loving, law-abiding, patriotic salt-of-the-earth people were banded together anywhere in New England and committed such crimes as the Ku Klux Klan committed just after the Civil war, we are confident that the jails and penitentiaries of New England would be well filled with these God-fearing, peace-loving, law-abiding, patriotic salt-of-the-earth people. We suppose Dixon's view point is not the same as that of the loyal people of New England. Justice was unknown during the terrorizing reign of the Ku Klux Klan in the southern states. Men were killed for praying, for teaching the alphabet, for singing gospel hymns, for preaching, for doing anything that either annoyed or in any way displeased the white people whose hearts were filled with hatred.

#### AS TO POLITICAL SITUATION IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Indications are that Gov. W. L. Douglas will again risk his name before the convention as a candidate for re-election. It is expected, as both the Republicans and Democrats declare, that unless radical changes take place, the governor will assume the leadership of the Democratic hosts of the state during the coming month. Republicans are hopeful that Curtis Guild, Jr., will be the next governor of the state, but there seems to be a combination against Guild and so the situation presents a doubtful phase. It is pretty nearly certain that

Eben S. Draper of Hopedale will be our next lieutenant-governor. He is the strongest candidate to be presented by the Republican state committee and according to the whisperings of those who claim to know things, he will receive the support of all loyal Republicans.

#### TERRELL AND HIS CRITICS.

Justice Robert H. Terrell of Washington, D. C., made a little speech at the New York meeting of the National Negro Business league, which gave him considerable prominence. People know about him now who had never heard of that gentleman before. The Justice made the mistake of expressing his honest conviction on one of the vital questions of the day, and in the eyes of some of our contemporaries this is regarded as a crime. The average observing Negro knows that there is a large element of irresponsible members of the race in Washington as there is in every large city; and this element is an impediment and handicap to the entire race. It is the ubiquitous element—it can be seen everywhere. The industrious people are engaged at some useful task when the idlers are on the street corners.

#### HOW MEN KEEP RICH.

Kankakee, Ill., Aug. 31—E. W. Taylor was returning from the south on an Illinois Central train and found on the floor of the car a wallet containing \$67,200, lost by a wealthy Negro of Birmingham, Ala. The bank book inside the wallet showed that Franklin P. Koontz had on deposit in Birmingham \$196,000. Taylor went through the train and located the owner, who carefully counted the money, examined the other contents of the wallet to see that nothing was missing, and then handed the finder a somewhat frayed 5-cent cigar.

#### WITTE'S SPEECH APPRECIATED.

Mr. Witte's speech to the correspondents at Portsmouth was a graceful tribute, which was as much appreciated as it was deserved. The eyes



of the world were upon them, and the service which they rendered has rarely if ever been surpassed under like conditions.

#### CHICAGO SETTING THE PACE.

The latest idea for an outdoor amusement enterprise is a Noah's ark show, and \$5,000,000 is to be spent on one to be located near Chicago. Mt. Ararat will be represented at the end of an artificial lake, and they are to "march the animals two by two, the elephant and the kangaroo."

#### THE CHURCHGOER.

(From the Voice of the People, East London, South Africa.)

Some go to church just for a walk,  
Some to stare, to laugh, and talk,  
Some go there to meet a friend,  
Some their idle time to spend,  
Some for general observation,  
Some for private speculation,  
Some to seek or find a lover,  
Some a courtship to discover,  
Some go there to use their eyes,  
And newest fashions criticise,  
Some to show their own smart dress.  
Some their neighbors to assess,  
Some to scan a robe or bonnet,  
Some to price the trimming on it,  
Some to learn the latest news,  
That friends at home they may amuse  
Some to gossip false and true,  
Safe hid within the sheltering pew,  
Some go there to please the squire,  
Some his daughters to admire,  
Some the parson go to fawn,  
Some to lounge and some to yawn,  
Some to claim the parish doles,  
Some for bread and some for coals,  
Some because it's thought genteel,  
Some to vaunt their pious zeal,  
Some to show how sweet they sing,  
Some how loud their voices ring,  
Some the preacher go to hear,  
His style and voice to praise and jeer,  
Some forgiveness to implore,  
Some their sins to varnish o'er,  
Some to sit and dose and nod,  
But few to kneel and worship God.

Missouri produces 84 per cent. of all the zinc and 90 per cent. of all the nickel mined in the United States.

#### TREES AND LIGHTNING.

##### Open Field the Safest Place—Elms and Oaks Most Often Hit.

About the most dangerous place to seek shelter in a thunderstorm is under an oak or elm tree, as was proved again by the experience of a dozen persons in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, only a short time ago. This fact has long been known to scientists, but many persons are killed every year by lightning because of the lack or disregard of this knowledge.

The total annual loss of life by lightning is not known, for complete statistics on the subject have never been kept. A few years ago the United States weather bureau attempted something of the kind in a tentative way. Its experts figured out the average number of persons killed by lightning yearly in the United States as 312. But this was not complete. From several states in the union the weather bureau received no reports.

The reports received did show that of all that lightning killed only a few were struck in the open field. Most of the killed and injured, it was found, had sought shelter from thunderstorms under trees, in doorways of barns or near chimneys.

While no record of the kinds of trees most often struck by lightning has ever been kept in the United States, the lightning rod conference held in England in 1881 reported that in the United Kingdom the trees most often struck were the elm, oak, ash and poplar. It also said that the beech, birch and maple were seldom touched by lightning. It was an elm that was struck in Prospect Park on July 8.

For a period of 11 years in the Principality of Lippe-Detmold exhaustive records were kept on all trees struck by lightning. These showed that trees standing near water seemed to be the most likely to be hit and gave this table of comparative danger: Oaks, 100; elms, 77; pines, 33; firs, 10; fir trees in general, 27; beeches, by far the safest of all forest trees, 2. —New York Sun.



## ALEXANDER'S MAGAZINE ADVERTISEMENTS

### SOME REASONS WHY EVERY NEGRO TEACHER AND FRIEND OF NEGRO EDUCATION SHOULD SUBSCRIBE FOR THE NEGRO EDUCATIONAL REVIEW.

1. The peculiar educational problems that confront the American Negro at this time make it necessary if not imperative for such a journal as the "Review."

2. It has upon its list of contributors nearly two hundred of the leading educators and thinkers of the race. Men and women whose ripe scholarship and long experience as teachers and leaders of the race, give them a right to be heard upon this most vital problem of our racial existence.

3. It will keep the teacher in touch with the latest thought of this great and progressive calling.

4. It will serve to bring the Negro teachers together in a way that must prove of interest and profit both to the teachers and to the cause of Negro education.

5. Every profession, organization and trade known among us has its official journal. How much more should the great profession of teaching, the most progressive and enlightened profession of the age be expected to maintain a high-class magazine devoted entirely and uncompromisingly to their interests. It does not argue well for the intelligence of progress of the thirty-seven thousand Negro teachers, that they have so long gone without an organ to further their interests.

If you are a friend to this movement and want to see The Negro Educational Review well circulated and read among our people, send in your subscription today. If any of your friends are friendly to this movement, such as your pastor, school officer or any intelligent person, do them and us a favor by calling their attention to The Negro Educational Review. If you are in any way concerned in a library or school, or society, or member of a club, see that The Negro Educational Review is put on the periodical list.

A word from a few hundred leading educators and friends of Negro education may mean a little to any one individual but the aggregate result

of such a co-operation will bring thousands of subscribers to The Negro Educational Review.

We want an intelligent, sober and energetic agent in every city, county and state in the union, and for the right person we will pay a good salary. Write us today. Subscription, \$1 per year. Sample copies, 10 cents per copy.

Address all communications to The Negro Educational Review Press, 12th and Hart Sts., Vincennes, Indiana.

DAVID V. BOHANNON, Ph.D.,

Editor.

MRS. JOSEPHINE SILON YATES,  
A. M., Assistant Editor.

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THE demands in all parts of this country, and in several foreign countries, for well trained men of our race in the direction of scientific and practical agriculture are so great that this institution is willing to offer exceptional advantages to young men who wish to come here and take either a regular or post-graduate course in agriculture. We cannot begin to supply the demands that come to us for trained men in the direction of agriculture. The positions for which these trained men are wanted are those in almost every case which pay high salaries. We wish to get hold of men who have received as far as possible, a good education before coming here, and are ready to enter on a thorough course in agricultural training. For further information address,

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Three Prizes of \$10 each.

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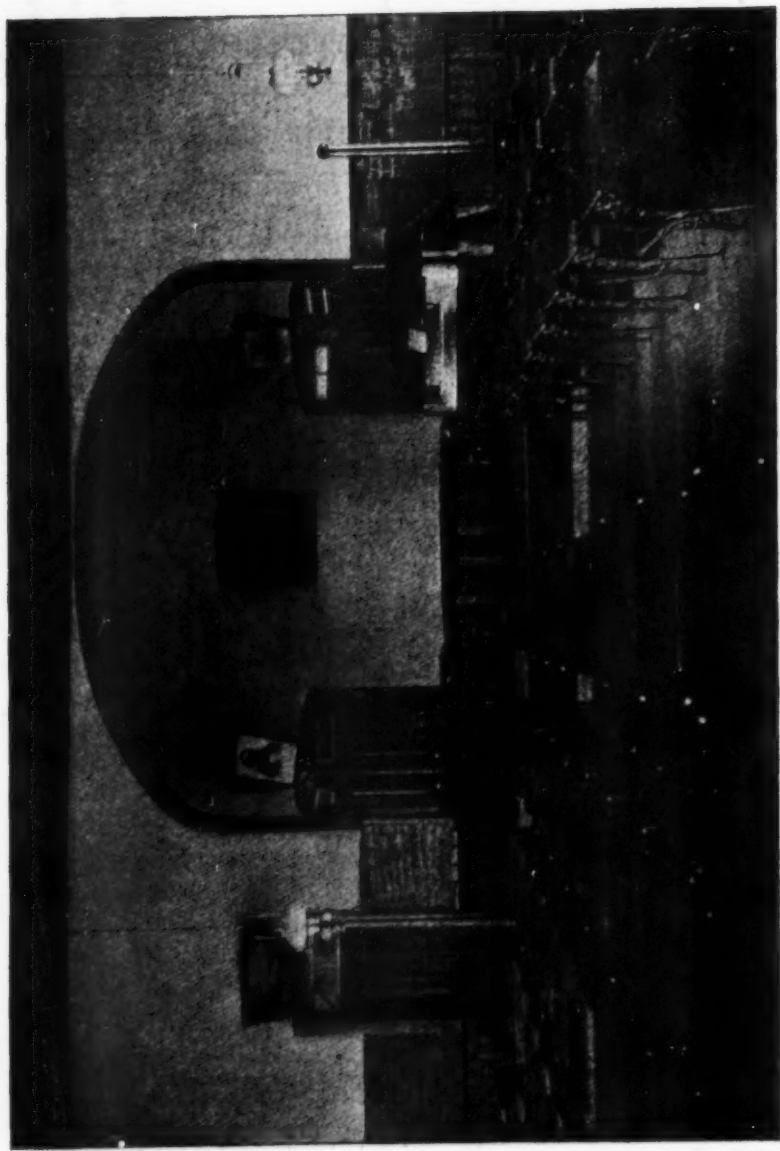
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Fifteen Prizes of \$1 each.

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